

Plant Compatibility

Who likes rubbing elbows with whom in the garden?

Certain Plants Belong Together

Some plants give off odors that repel pests that would bother their neighbors. Others attract insects beneficial to the whole row. Others refuse to get along at all. Certain plants compete for food, or release substances that can inhibit their neighbors.

Group together vegetables, herbs, and flowering plants that will benefit each other. It would be simple to map out a basic layout and stick to it every year, but it is important to rotate crops from year to year in order to discourage disease and balance the nutrients that they take from and leave in the soil.

Pest Control and Plant Protection

Plants to put about the garden for protection and pest control:

- Catnip planted at the borders will protect against flea beetles
- Chives around the base of fruit trees will discourage insects from climbing the trunk
- Nasturtium and/or tansy planted under fruit trees will deter ants and pests
- Dead nettle deters potato bugs
- Garlic planted throughout the garden deters pests
- Plant marigolds freely throughout the garden- they are the workhorse of pest deterrents, keeping soil free of nematodes and discouraging many insects
- Peas grow well with almost any vegetable, adding nitrogen to the soil
- Radishes are a general aid in repelling insects
- Rosemary deters cabbage moth, bean beetles, and carrot fly
- Soybean will grow with anything and helps everything
- Tansy is great to plant throughout the garden
- Thyme planted here and there deters cabbage worm
- Wormwood is good to plant as a border to keep animals from the garden
- Yarrow is good to plant along borders, near path, or near aromatic herbs as it enhances the essential oil production of herbs

[Plant Compatibility Chart on Back →](#)

"Plant Compatibility" or "Companion Planting"

PLANT/CROP	LOVES/COMPANIONS (& EFFECTS)	LOATHES/INCOMPATIBLE
Asparagus	Tomatoes, Parsley, Basil	
Basil	Tomatoes (improves growth & flavor)	
Beans (bush)	Potatoes, Cucumber (combination of heavy and light feeders), Corn, Strawberries, Celery, Beets, Lettuce, Peas, Petunias (protects beans)	Onion
Beans (pole)	Corn, Radish, Cucumber, Lettuce, Eggplant, Petunias (protects beans)	Onion, Beets, Kohlrabi, Sunflower
Beets	Bush Beans, Cabbage, Onions, Sage, Kohlrabi	
Cabbage Family*	Herbs, Celery, Beets, Onion, Chamomile, Spinach, Rosemary, Lavender; aromatic plants deter cabbage worms; hyssop or mint deters cabbage moths	Dill, Strawberries, Pole Beans, Tomatoes
Carrots	Peas, Lettuce, Chives, Rosemary, Onions, Sage, Tomatoes	Dill
Celery	Leeks, tomatoes, bush beans, cauliflower, cabbage	
Corn	Potatoes, Beans, Peas, Pumpkins, Cucumber, Squash	Tomatoes
Cucumber	Beans, Corn, Peas, Sunflowers, Radish	Potatoes, Herbs
Fennel		Most plants, plant alone
Flax	Carrots, Potatoes	
Eggplant	Beans, Marigolds, Spinach	
Garlic	Roses, Raspberries (deters bugs); herbs (improves production of essential oils)	
Lettuce	Carrot, Radish, Strawberry, Cucumber, Onions	Sunflower, Cabbage
Leek	Onions, Celery, Carrots	
Melons	Corn, Nasturtium, Radish	
Onions	Beats (protects against ants), Beets, Carrot, Lettuce (protects against slugs), Cabbage, Peppers, Squash, Tomatoes, Asparagus, Strawberries	
Pea	Carrots, Radish, Turnip, Cucumber, Corn, Beans	Onions, Gladiolus, Potatoes
Peppers	Basil, Tomatoes, Marigolds	
Potato	Beans, Corn, Cabbage, Marigolds, Limas, Horseradish or Eggplant (deters potato beetle)	Pumpkin, Squash, Tomatoes, Cucumber, Eggplant
Pumpkins	Corn, Marigolds	Potatoes
Radish	Peas, Nasturtium, Lettuce, Cucumber, Chervil (improves growth & flavor)	Potatoes
Sage	Rosemary, Carrots, Cabbage, Peas, Beans	
Spinach	Strawberry, Beans	
Squash	Nasturtium, Corn, Marigold	Potatoes
Strawberries	Beans, Lettuce (as a border), Onions, Spinach	
Tomatoes	Onions, Nasturtium, Marigold, Asparagus, Carrot, Parsley, Cucumber, Chives, Limas	Potatoes, Fennel, Cabbage
Turnip	Peas	Potatoes

*Cabbage Family: broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, kale, kohlrabi