

Harlequin's Gardens

Onion Planting Instructions

Choose a sunny site with good drainage. You can plant onion bulbs (baby onion plants) as soon as the soil can be worked.

Add compost, but onions like a firm bed, so lightly compress the soil. Avoid planting into dry soil.

Once you have the soil ready for planting, remove the bulbs from the bundle and lay them out. (You may wish to soak them for 30 minutes to an hour beforehand.)

Dig holes or run a 2-3" deep trench. Plant the bulbs about 4" apart in rows. Each row should be about 1 foot from the other.

Maintain consistent moisture and provide monthly liquid feed of a seaweed-based fertilizer.

Onions are not very good at suppressing weed growth, so regular weeding is advised to mitigate nutrient competition. Be careful – onions are easily damaged by garden tools.

Onions naturally push toward the soil surface as they mature, and it's best to leave their tops exposed.

You can harvest young onions several weeks after planting for "spring onions" or scallions. Full sized onions are ready to harvest when the bulbs are big and the tops begin to turn yellow and fall over.

Pull them up, shake off the soil, and lay them out to cure with the tops still attached. Keep them dry with good air circulation. After 7-10 days, clip off the tops and roots and store your onions in a cool place.