

# How to grow Green Peas from Seed at Home

Green peas, scientifically known as *Pisum sativum*, are one of the most cultivated legumes in the world. They are not only delicious but are packed with nutrients, including vitamins, minerals, and fiber.

Green peas are often consumed fresh or frozen and are commonly used in culinary dishes, salads, soups, and stews. Choose a fertile and well-drained site for your farm. The soil should have organic matter and have a slightly acidic to neutral PH (6.0–7.5). Remove any weeds or debris from the land, for they can affect the growth of the seeds. Select high-quality seeds from a reputable supplier and consider things like disease resistance, growth habits, and maturity period. There are various varieties of peas available, including early, mid-season, and late-season. Choose the one that suits your climate and growing season.

## Sowing

Sow the seeds directly into the soil during early spring or late winter, as peas prefer cold weather. Plant the seeds about 2 to 3 inches deep, 2 inches apart, and in rows with a distance of 18 to 24 inches apart. Keep the soil moist, especially during flowering and pod formation, but avoid over-watering as peas are susceptible to root rot. Applying fertilizer rich in nitrogen, phosphorous, and potassium can promote healthy growth and better yields.

## Pests and diseases

Monitor your plants regularly for pests or diseases. Common pests include aphids, pea weevils, and caterpillars. Use organic or chemical methods as necessary to protect your plants.

## **Harvesting and handling**

It begins when the pods are quite filled but still tender. Check the maturity period of your chosen variety, as it can vary. After harvesting, cool the peas immediately to preserve their freshness and quality. If you plan on storing them for an extended period, blanching and freezing are popular preservation methods.