

Square foot gardening plant spacing cheat sheet

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SFG basics:

Divide your garden into 1' x 1' squares.

Plant a different kind of vegetable, fruit, herb, or flower in each square.

Use the "recommended space after thinning."

Space plants evenly by subdividing each square into 4, 9, or 16 smaller squares.

Plant one seedling or 2-4 seeds (in case some don't sprout) in the middle of each small square.

Remember to write down what's planted in each square and the date you planted it.

After you harvest a square, dig in a little compost, and plant something else!

Tips:

Plant the tallest plants on the north side of the bed (south in the southern hemisphere) so they don't shade the shorter plants.

Make your garden beds narrow enough that you can reach the plants in the middle, or leave a pathway every 4 feet or so. I prefer raised beds that are 3'x5' or 4'x4'.

Plant in waves! Plant a half square of carrots every two weeks, and you'll have tender baby carrots all season long.

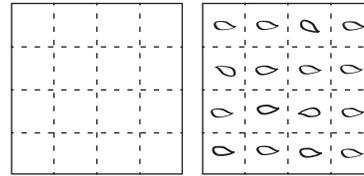
Put the plants that you harvest often — like salad greens for dinner — around the edges of the bed, where they're easy to reach.

Train summer squash, winter squash, and melons up trellises, or plant them at the edge of the bed so they can sprawl over the side without crushing other plants.

Questions? email claire@plantandplate.com

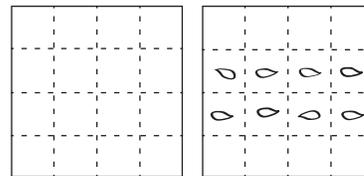
For more info on SFG, read Mel Bartholomew's excellent Square Foot Gardening books, available at your local independent bookstore or library.

3" spacing = 16 plants / square foot



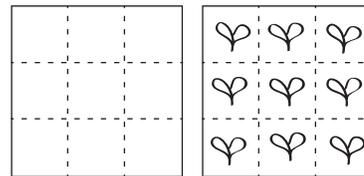
carrots
radishes
parsnips

3"(on trellis) = 8 plants / square foot



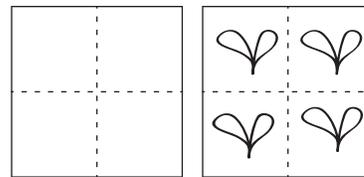
peas
pole beans

4" spacing = 9 plants / square foot



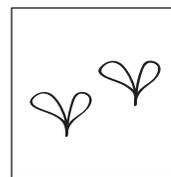
bush beans
spinach
beets, turnips
leeks, onions,
garlic, scallions

6" spacing = 4 plants / square foot



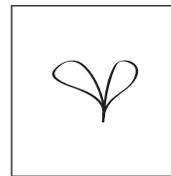
lettuce
swiss chard
corn
basil, thyme
quinoa

8" spacing = 2 plants / sq ft



cucumbers (on trellis)
sweet potatoes
kale

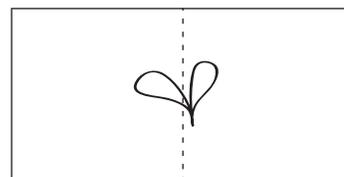
12" spacing = 1 plant / sq ft



tomatoes
eggplant
peppers
celery
cauliflower
sunflowers

potatoes
broccoli
cabbage
most herbs
asparagus
okra

18" - 24" spacing = 2 sq ft / plant



summer squash
(zucchini, etc.)
winter squash
(pumpkins etc.)
melons