



What to know about seed saving!



Perennials

Perennial seeds are ready to harvest after the flowers are done blooming and the petals have turned brown and/or fallen off. Follow these steps:

Seed Saving Steps:

- 1. Cut flower head with scissors or a knife.*
- 2. Collect the ripe seeds from the flower head and place on waxed paper.*
- 3. Allow the seeds to dry for about a week.*
- 4. Clean the seeds by removing any husks or pods.*
- 5. Place seeds in an envelope and seal. Store in an airtight container in a cool, dark, dry location.*
- 6. Sow the seeds in spring. You can plant them directly in the garden, or get a jump on the season and start them early indoors.*



Annuals

Just like many perennials, there are lots of annual plants with seeds that are easy to save. Harvest them after the flowers bloom, and follow the same instructions for saving perennial seeds.

Easiest Annuals to Save:

- Cleome
- Larkspur
- Marigold
- Morning glory
- Nasturtium
- Poppy
- Snapdragon

Tips:

It is essential to keep seeds dry and cool so that they will remain viable until the next spring. Ideally, they should be stored in tightly sealed glass containers. Individual varieties or different types of seeds can be placed inside of paper packets and then packed together inside of a larger glass container.



Sources:

- www.permaculturenews.org/how-to-harvest-your-own-seeds-from-fruit-and-vegetables
- www.extension.umn.edu/planting-and-growing-guides/saving-vegetable-seeds
- www.hobbyfarms.com/saving-herb-seeds-guide/
- <https://extension.usa.edu/yardandgarden/research/collecting-and-storing-seeds-from-your-garden>