

# SEED POTATO PREP & PLANTING TIMELINE

## WHY GREENSPROUT?

Greensprouting seed potatoes:

- Prevents them from rotting in the ground
- Helps the plants get a jump on outgrowing any weeds
- Speeds up growth, which will give you an earlier harvest
- Encourages more shoots to grow, which will give you a bigger harvest

## PREP TIMELINE

Once you know your average last frost date (look this up based on your zip code) you can work backwards on the calendar and fill in the date boxes below. This will help you know when to start preparing your seed potatoes for planting.

KNOW: Average last frost

DATE:

STEP 3: PLANT: 1-2 weeks before last frost, depending on how the forecast looks

DATE:

STEP 2: CHIT- COOL & BRIGHT: 4 weeks before last frost; store in 50°F exposed to indirect light

DATE:

STEP 1: CHIT- WARM & DARK: 5 weeks before last frost; store in 70-75°F in the dark

DATE:

## PLANTING

Seed potatoes are ready to plant when they have short bulky sprouts that are starting to turn green. Planting 1 to 2 weeks before your last frost ensures that the seed potatoes are protected underground if it does frost, but by the time the greens emerge (which are susceptible to frost) that danger of frost has passed.

- Spacing in the row: 1 foot apart
- Spacing between rows: 3 feet
- Planting depth: 6 inches



Crystal Schmidt • Author of "Freeze Fresh"  
wholefedhomestead.com