



BISLEY FARM SHOP

Growing Potatoes

Potatoes are easy to grow and very rewarding. This simple guide shows you how to plant, care for, and harvest potatoes successfully at home.

Firstly choose the variety of potato you fancy. At Bisley Farm Shop you can choose from:

Early Potatoes (quick harvest – great for beginners)

Sharpes Express – Very early and reliable

Maris Peer – Firm salad potato

Rocket – Fast-growing, ideal for containers

Charlotte – Waxy, smooth salad potato

Maincrop Potatoes (bigger harvest, good storage)

Marfona – Creamy and versatile

Desiree – Red skin, good all-rounder

Cara – Disease-resistant, great for baking

When to Plant

Start chitting seed potatoes in late winter. Chitting is the process of encouraging seed potatoes to sprout before planting, giving them a head start for an earlier, more bountiful harvest. By placing seed potatoes in a cool, bright, frost-free area for 4–6 weeks, gardeners force them to develop short, sturdy shoots, usually starting in January or February.

Plant earlies: early spring. Plant maincrop: mid to late spring

Avoid frosty or waterlogged soil.



How to Plant

Dig a trench 10–15 cm deep. Place seed potatoes shoots-up. Space 30 cm apart (earlies) or 35–40 cm (maincrop)

Cover with soil and water well

Potatoes can also be grown in bags or containers.



Care Tips

Earth up soil as shoots grow. Water regularly, especially when flowering. Keep tubers covered to prevent greening

Harvesting

Earlies: harvest when flowering starts

Maincrop: harvest when foliage dies back

Lift gently with a fork.



Top Beginner Tips

Start with Sharpes Express or Rocket

Containers are perfect for small spaces

Rotate crops each year to reduce disease

