

## GROWING BROCCOLI AND CAULIFLOWER

As a cool-season plant, knowing when to plant broccoli or cauliflower is the key. Harvesting broccoli and cauliflower plants just before the hot summer weather starts is desired.

Start planting your seeds indoors, 6 to 8 weeks before the expected last frost date.

Sow the seeds 6 to 13mm deep in a quality seedling potting mix or soil.

Broccoli seeds germinate within 4 to 7 days if kept indoors and a little longer if the weather is exceptionally cool.

When the seedlings get about 7cm tall, and the chance of frost is gone for the year, plant the seedling in your prepared garden patch.

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## GROWING BROCCOLI AND CAULIFLOWER PT 2

Make sure the soil is well fertilised and drained as these plants do not like sitting in wet puddles.

Cabbage, broccoli and cauliflower are leafy vegetables and love high nitrogen fertiliser, so prepare the ground before planting. Planting needs to be well prepared with lots of animal manure with high nitrogen like chook or cow manure.

### Other Growing Tips

When growing broccoli seedlings indoors, be sure to provide plenty of light to prevent plants from becoming leggy.

If long stems develop, try repotting the seedlings deeper (up to the first leaves) and then provide more light. Cauliflower can flower before producing the vegetable if soil is poorly prepared or if it was planted too late and the weather is too warm for the plant to grow.



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