

Peas

Pisum sativum · Legume family

DIFFICULTY Easy
TYPE Annual, direct sown, cool season
MATURITY 55–70 days



SUN
Full–part sun



WATER
Regular



SOIL PH
6.0–7.5



SPACING
5–8cm × 45cm



DEPTH
2–3cm

01 Nitrogen fixers

Like all legumes, peas host bacteria in root nodules that pull nitrogen from the air into the soil — a genuine benefit to whatever's planted after them.



nitrogen-fixing nodules along the roots

may need a stake or trellis

02 Planting

METHOD	Direct sow along a trellis, fence, or netting for climbing types.
SOIL	Well-drained, moderately fertile — too rich and you get leaf over pods.
TIMING	Sow in cooler months; peas dislike summer heat.

03 Growing care

- Provide support at planting — climbing types need it early.
- Water regularly, especially once flowering begins.
- Pick often to keep production going.
- Leave roots in the ground after harvest to release fixed nitrogen.

04 Problems

- **Powdery mildew** — humid weather; improve airflow, water at the base.
- **Pea weevil** — notched leaf edges; generally cosmetic, tolerate.
- **Poor pod set** — heat stress; grow in the cooler part of the year.
- **Birds** — net young seedlings, which are a favourite target.

05 Harvest & storage

SIGNS	Pods are plump and glossy but not bulging tight.
METHOD	Pick with two hands to avoid tearing the vine.
CURING	None needed.
STORAGE	Fridge a few days; freezes very well.

06 Companions & rotation

PLANT NEARBY

Carrot

Cucumber

Corn

Radish

AVOID NEARBY

Onion

Garlic

ROTATION NOTE

Follow with heavy feeders like brassicas to use the fixed nitrogen.