

Globe Artichoke

Cynara cardunculus · Daisy family

DIFFICULTY Moderate
TYPE Perennial, from seed, seedling, or division
MATURITY Year 2 for full crop



SUN
Full sun



WATER
Regular, deep



SOIL PH
6.5–7.5



SPACING
1–1.2m



DEPTH
as per
pot/division

01 A big, permanent clump

Globe artichoke forms a large architectural clump 1.5m across at maturity. Give it a permanent, sunny spot — it will produce for 5+ years.



bushy perennial clump



or strike a cutting in a pot

02 Planting

METHOD	Plant divisions or seedlings into their permanent position.
SOIL	Rich, deep, well-drained.
TIMING	Plant in autumn or early spring.

03 Growing care

- Water deeply and regularly, especially through bud formation.
- Mulch heavily to retain moisture around the deep root system.
- Feed generously with compost each spring.
- Cut spent flower stalks back after harvest to encourage further buds.

04 Problems

- **Aphids** — cluster on developing buds; hose off.
- **Slugs and snails** — target new spring growth; hand-pick at dusk.
- **Crown rot** — waterlogged soil; ensure sharp drainage.
- **Small buds** — under-watering or nutrient-poor soil.

05 Harvest & storage

SIGNS	Buds are plump and tight, before the scales begin to open.
METHOD	Cut with a sharp knife, leaving a few centimetres of stem.
CURING	None needed.
STORAGE	Fridge, up to a week.

06 Companions & rotation

PLANT NEARBY	AVOID NEARBY	ROTATION NOTE
Sunflower Beans	Close underplanting	Not applicable — long-lived perennial clump; divide every 3–5 years to renew vigour.