

# Seed Starting Tips

- 1 Know your seeds - some should be started indoors 6 – 8 weeks before planting outside (peppers), some should be directly sown outside (beans).
- 2 Before planting your seeds, pre-soak in a damp paper towel for 24 hours.
- 3 Pre-moisten soil and plant the seeds in containers that allow for air flow and drainage.
- 4 Plant the seed at a depth approximately 3 times the length of the seed.
- 5 Label each container to keep track of which plants are which.
- 6 Once planted, keep seeds warm and humid to encourage germination, between 19 – 24 degrees Celsius. To do this, cover with a clear lid or plastic wrap. Remember that seeds don't need a lot of light until they have sprouted.
- 7 Once your seeds have sprouted, keep them in a sunny place. You may want to consider using a grow light.
- 8 Remove the lid or covering once seeds have sprouted.
- 9 Keep soil moist and fertilize weekly.
- 10 Check for overcrowding. If you have planted multiple seeds in the same pot, pull weaker/smaller sprouts to give the larger/stronger sprouts room to grow.
- 11 'Pot up' if necessary – if your seedling is outgrowing its container before it is time to plant outside, you may want to pot it up into a slightly larger container.
- 12 'Harden off' your plant - up to a week before you plant outside, let your seedlings sit outside in a sunny spot for a few hours each day so it gets used to outside conditions.
- 13 Plant outside after the threat of frost has passed, usually after Victoria Day weekend.



# Georgina Public Library

## SEED LIBRARY FAQ'S



### How can I donate?

- At any time throughout the year, community members can donate seeds to the library by picking up labelled envelopes from any GPL branch.
- At home, fill the envelope with 9-15 seeds per pack and fill out the information on the front of the envelope.
- Return the envelope to any GPL branch.

### When is the Seed Library available?

- Subject to availability, seeds can be picked up at all four GPL branches.
- Donated seed packets will be sorted and distributed to each branch.
- Each branch has a chest of drawers that houses available seeds.

### How many can I take at a time?

- While supplies last, community members can take 2 packets per visit.
- The Seed Library is made possible by community donations, so please collect and donate seeds from your mature plants.

### Can I request the type of seeds I would like?

- Since we cannot predict the seeds available for donation, we are unable to accommodate requests for specific seeds.

### Where can I learn more about gardening?

- Browse our catalogue for helpful resources, or talk to experienced gardeners in our community.
- GPL presents gardening themed programs throughout the year. Keep an eye on our program flyers and website for more information.

For more information about our Seed Library, visit [georginalibrary.ca](http://georginalibrary.ca)



Georgina-Brock  
garden club  
est. 1959

