

# Growing Carrots in Containers Checklist

## Materials

- Location - Location of container will receive at least 6 hours of sunlight a day
- Seed Selection - Select a seed variety the grows best in your climate; Johnny's Selected Seeds - johnnyseeds.com
- Container Selection - Select a container that best suits your size and aesthetic needs - should be at least 12" wide and deep and have drainage holes
- Vegetable Potting Soil such as Fox Farm
- Organic Compost - From compost pile or Black Kow
- Bone Meal
- Organic liquid fertilizer or compost tea

## How to Plant

1. Create a soil mixture that is loose and fertile. I recommend  $\frac{2}{3}$  organic potting mix and  $\frac{1}{3}$  organic compost. [Fox Farm](#) is my favorite potting mix & [Black Kow](#) is my favorite organic compost second to my own compost pile. I'll also add  $\frac{1}{2}$ -1 cup of [bone meal](#) to the soil mixture as it is a great source of phosphorus. Carrots love phosphorus. You can pick up these 3 components from your local Home Depot.
2. Plant densely, but not too dense. I recommend dropping 1-2 seeds 1" deep, and spacing this 1-2" apart. You'll want to stop 1-2" away from the sides of your container.
3. Carrots like being lightly moist but not wet. To decide when to water, stick your finger into the soil. Water when soil is dry 1" deep. Water thoroughly when you do decide to add moisture.
4. Fertilize every 3-4 weeks with [organic veggie fertilizer](#) or compost tea. Be careful of adding too much nitrogen as it will encourage bushy tops and a small root.
5. Thin when seedlings are 3" tall. Thin from 1-2" apart to 2-3". To thin, gently pull up the seedling you wish to remove.
6. Hilling - from time to time tops of carrot roots will push out when growing, just mound dirt on top to avoid a bitter taste from direct sunlight on the root.
7. Yay! It's finally harvest time. Check your seed packet for the maturity date. 40-60 days is a common timeline. Examine to see if your carrots are ready for harvest by pulling root out to see the size. You can always stick them back into the ground where they will continue to grow.

### Planting Tips

- Container is at least 12" wide and deep
- Soil mixture is a light mixture for easy root growth
- Seed is planted 1" deep
- Seeds are watered when the top 1" soil is dry
- Thin seedlings when they are 3" tall
- Fertilize every 3-4 weeks with an organic fertilizer or compost tea
- Hill tops of carrots if root becomes exposed
- Harvest based on seed packet maturity date; check size by pulling root

### Green Thumb Notes:

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