

CUCUMBER

SQUARE FOOT PLANTING: 2 plants per square foot

SEED DEPTH: ½-1 inch **GERMINATION:** 3-4 days

GROWTH

Cucumbers, like beans, are natural climbers. They work well with a trellis or 4-5-foot high fence of chicken wire. If you are not growing them vertically, leave ample room for them to sprawl out on the ground.

Cucumber plants and their fruit are naturally prickly. If you have sensitive skin, wear gardening gloves when harvesting or weeding around the plants.

HARVEST

Harvesting in early morning to avoid bitterness, look for firm cucumbers that are crisp. Smaller ones will be most flavorful.

Remove by gently twisting off the vine any fruits that are ripe.

Pick continually as this will cause the plant to produce more!

STORAGE

Refrigerate immediately. Store loose or in a loose plastic bag in the crisper drawer. When stored properly, cucumbers will stay fresh up to 10 days after harvest.

A cucumber refrigerated after being cut or peeled will deteriorate rapidly. Use leftovers as soon as possible.

GROWING GUIDE | PAGES

Cucumber | 35

MORE ON CUCUMBER

[Territorial Seed Company](#)

[Rare Seeds Baker Creek Heirloom
Seeds; Cucumbers](#)

SEED SAVING—EXPERIENCED

[Mother Earth News: How Can I Save
Cucumber Seeds?](#)

[International Seed Saving Institute:
Cucumber](#)