

Potato Competition 2022 - Planting Time!

It is time to plant your potato. By now your potato should have small green/purple shoots. These are the stems that will produce more potatoes.

Long shoots tend to form weak stems and break. If the shoots are white they have not had enough light.

You can plant your potato in the ground or in a pot.

Tip – Remember that the bigger the space/volume of compost, the more potatoes you are likely to harvest so choose your place carefully.

Place the sprouted potato on a layer of soil/compost about 10cm deep.

Tip – space them with the sprouts pointing up.

Cover them with another layer of soil/compost.

Water them well.

Tip – You should grow your potato in a sheltered place with good sunlight.

Things to remember –

Like all living things, plants need **water** and **food** to grow.

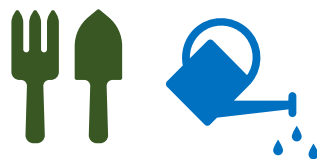
They produce their own food in a chemical process called **photosynthesis**. To do this they need **sunlight**, so remember to place your container, or choose a planting area with lots of light.

Remember to **water** them regularly. Without water your plant will soon wither and die.

Think about **the right soil/compost**, it needs to provide the plants with enough **nutrients** to grow, and keep growing for a few months.

The 'eyes' on a potato are buds where shoots for a new plant will grow.

Potatoes are modified stems called 'stem tubers'. They store and provide the plant with energy to grow a new plant.



Creative Display

We want to see unique and creative designs for how you display and plant your potato.

You could paint your container or cover it in something sparkly, make flags or banners. You could upcycle something that is being thrown away or broken.

Don't use anything that could harm wildlife and remember it will be outside in all weathers. Also check with an adult before you use it.

