

# URBAN FARMER

LOVE THE EARTH

## From Seed to Harvest: A beginner's guide to growing Zinnias

Zinnias are a popular flower and add a beautiful burst of color to a bouquet. Zinnias grow in many different colors and shapes and can bloom with flowers up to 6 inches in diameter. Zinnias are very easy to grow.

### To plant:

Zinnias are a warm-weather flower, but they don't like to be transplanted. Plant them directly outdoors when air and soil are 70 degrees or warmer. Plant seeds ¼ inch deep and space them depending on how you want them to grow in the garden. Once they sprout, thin the Zinnias, leaving the strongest seedlings. However, if you want the Zinnias to grow earlier, they can be started indoors in peat pots. Begin them indoors a month before the last frost and once temperatures are warm enough, plant the entire pot in the garden.

### To grow:

Zinnias grow well in full sun, and they are generally resistant to pests. Water the Zinnias an inch a week, but make sure you don't overwater because Zinnias are susceptible to mildew. When watering, water at the base of the plant and don't get water on the leaves or stems. Water early in the morning so the plant has time to dry throughout the heat of the day before night falls. To produce bushier Zinnia plants, pinch off the top of the plants when they are young. Tall Zinnias will need to be staked so they don't droop to the ground. Mulch around the base of the Zinnias to retain moisture and deter weeds.



[Whirligig Zinnia seeds available at ufseeds.com](http://ufseeds.com)

### To harvest:

Harvesting the Zinnias to use as cut flowers will encourage more growth on the plant. To use in a bouquet, cut the Zinnias above the leaves and place in a vase. More Zinnias will bloom on the stem. Gardeners can also harvest the seeds of Zinnia flowers to plant the following year. Zinnias that go to seed will attract birds to the garden, as birds will help prevent smaller pests in the garden, such as insects.

### What Zinnias crave:

Zinnias grow best in soil that is well-fed. Work compost into the ground where you will be planting Zinnias early in the season so the compost has time to fertilize the soil. When the Zinnia plants are young, fertilize them with an all-purpose, slow-release granular fertilizer. Sprinkle a teaspoon of the fertilizer on the ground around the base of the Zinnia plants, and the rain will mix it into the soil.



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One Day  
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100%  
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## Where to buy Zinnia seeds:

Urban Farmer offers a wide variety of Zinnia seeds. They range from a variety with blooms reaching up to 6 inches in diameter to cutting varieties. Urban Farmer also sells Zinnias in solid colors of red, white, purple, orange, pink and yellow. Smaller, double bloom Zinnia seeds also are available.

Check out our Zinnia seed selection on our website at [ufseeds.com](http://ufseeds.com)!



[Zinderella Peach seeds available at ufseeds.com](http://ufseeds.com)



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