



Quick Fall Root Crops Planting Guide

Fall is the perfect time to tuck in fast-growing root crops for a final harvest before winter. This guide includes planting depths, spacing, timelines, and zone-specific sowing windows, along with a reflection and journal prompt.

Planting Chart by Crop

Crop	Planting Depth	Spacing	Days to Harvest
Radishes	$\frac{1}{4}$ inch	1 inch apart in rows 6–8 inches apart	25–35 days
Turnips	$\frac{1}{2}$ inch	2–3 inches apart in rows 12 inches apart	30–50 days
Carrots	$\frac{1}{4}$ inch	1–2 inches apart in rows 12 inches apart	50–70 days
Beets	$\frac{1}{2}$ inch	2–3 inches apart in rows 12 inches apart	45–60 days
Daikon Radish	$\frac{1}{2}$ inch	3–4 inches apart in rows 12–18 inches apart	50–60 days

Zone-Specific Sowing Windows

- Zones 9–10: Sow root crops into late fall; mild winters allow near year-round planting.
- Zones 7–8: Sow in September–October for fall harvest; extend with row covers.
- Zones 5–6: Sow in late August–early September; protect with mulch or cold frames.
- Zones 3–4: Sow in August; extend harvests with tunnels or cold frames.

Tips for Success

- Keep soil consistently moist during germination for strong sprouting.
- Thin seedlings when 2–3 inches tall to prevent overcrowding.
- Mix radish seeds with carrots to mark rows and loosen soil.
- Harvest on time—overmature roots can become woody or split.
- Mulch lightly to conserve moisture and insulate soil as temperatures cool.



Reflection

Fall root crops remind us that growth is possible even in the final stretch of the season. They echo the truth that God often brings sweetness in unexpected times.

Journal Prompt

What hidden roots are forming in my life right now—quiet, unseen, but preparing to nourish me in the next season?

