

Garlic Planting Guide for Zone 9


Garlic is one of the simplest and most rewarding crops to grow in Zone 9. This guide gives you clear steps, spacing charts, and seasonal care reminders to help you succeed from planting to harvest.

Step-by-Step Planting Instructions

- Break apart bulbs into individual cloves. Keep papery skins intact.
- Choose the largest, healthiest cloves for planting.
- Plant each clove 2 inches deep, pointy side up.
- Space cloves 4–6 inches apart, in rows 12 inches apart.
- Cover with soil, then mulch with 2–3 inches of leaves or straw.

Bed Preparation & Spacing

- Clear weeds and loosen soil 8–10 inches deep.
- Add compost or aged manure to enrich soil.
- Mix in balanced organic fertilizer (like bulb food).
- Ensure good drainage—garlic dislikes soggy soil.

 Spacing: 4–6 inches between cloves, 12 inches between rows.

Seasonal Care Checklist (Zone 9)

- Autumn (Oct–Dec): Plant cloves, mulch beds generously.
- Winter: Water moderately, keep soil moist but not soggy.
- Spring: Fertilize lightly with compost tea or seaweed; weed carefully.
- Late Spring (May–June): Reduce watering as bulbs mature, prepare for harvest.



Journal Prompt

What “cloves” are you planting in your life this season—small acts of trust or faith—that you won’t see the fruit of for many months? How can you rest in God’s hidden work?

Grace Note

Dear friend, garlic reminds us that small beginnings matter. A single clove becomes a whole bulb when given time, care, and patience. Don’t despise the little things you plant—in your garden or in your life. God multiplies them in His time.

