

Seed Longevity Chart



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Many seeds will remain viable for a number of years if stored properly. Seeds should be stored in a cool dark place with low humidity.

Several factors affect seed storage life including the moisture content of the seed when initially placed in storage, the specific variety of seed, and the storage environment.

A great way to store seeds is in a sealed glass jar in the refrigerator with a desiccant pack in the jar.

This chart contains several seed varieties and an estimated number of years they will remain viable when stored under optimal conditions.

Vegetables & Fruits

Seed Type	Years	Seed Type	Years
Artichokes	1-5	Lettuce	1-6
Arugula	3-6	Muskmelons	3-6
Asparagus	3-4	Mustard	4
Beans	2-4	Okra	2-3
Beets	2-5	Onions	1-2
Broccoli	3-5	Parsnip	1-3
Brussels Sprouts	3-5	Peas	2-4
Cabbage	3-5	Peppers	2-5
Carrots	3-4	Pumpkins	4-6
Cauliflower	4-5	Radishes	4-5
Celery	3-5	Rhubarb	4
Chard	2-5	Rutabagas	3-5
Collards	3-5	Soy Bean	3-5
Corn	1-3	Spinach	1-5
Cucumber	3-6	Summer Squash	3-6
Eggplant	4-5	Strawberry	5
Endive/Escarole	5	Tomatoes	3-7
Kale	3-5	Turnips	4-5
Kohlrabi	3-5	Watermelons	4-5
Leeks	1-3	Winter Squash	4-5
Lentils	1-2		

Herbs

Seed Type	Years	Seed Type	Years
Angelica	2	Lavender	4
Anise	1-3	Lemon Balm	1-4
Basil	3-5	Lemon Grass	3
Borage	1-4	Lovage	1-3
Caraway	1-2	Marjoram	1-4
Catnip	3	Mint	4
Chamomile	4	Oregano	4
Chervil	1-4	Parsley	1-4
Chives	1-3	Rosemary	1-4
Cilantro/Coriander	1-4	Sage	1-3
Cumin	1-3	Savory	1-4
Dill	1-4	Thyme	1-4
Fennel	1-2	Valerian	2-3
Hyssop	1-4	Yarrow	3-5

Flowers

Seed Type	Years	Seed Type	Years
Alyssum	3-5	Hyacinth Bean	3-5
Amaranthus	4-5	Impatiens	1-2
Aquilegia (Columbine)	1-2	Larkspur	1-3
Asclepias	1	Lupine	3-5
Aster	1-2	Marigold	2-5
Bachelor's Buttons	3-5	Monarda	4
Bells of Ireland	2	Nasturtium	3-7
Calendula	4-6	Nigella	3-5
Carnation	3-5	Pansy	1-2
Celosia	2-4	Phlox	1-3
Coneflower	1-2	Poppy	2-4
Cosmos	3-5	Salvia	1-3
Dahlia	2-5	Snapdragon	3-5
Daisy	3	Strawflower	1-2
Delphinium	1-3	Sunflowers	3-5
Dianthus	3-5	Sweet Pea	3-5
Digitalis	1-2	Verbena 1-5	1-5
Echinacea	4	Viola	1-2
Eucalyptus	4	Zinnia	2-5
Forget-Me-Not	2		