



An In-Depth Companion Planting Guide

For a healthy, thriving garden, consult this companion planting guide when you're deciding what seeds to put where. Originally published as "An In Depth Plant Companionship Chart" in the May/June 1981 issue of MOTHER EARTH NEWS.

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<https://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/companion-planting-guide-zmaz81mjzraw>

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A companion planting guide is almost a necessity for gardeners when there are so many types of fruits and vegetables to choose from.

Photo by Getty Images/valentinrussanov

A companion planting guide such as this one will show you which vegetables and flowers support or inhibit the growth of other plants and/or which pests they deter.

Basil

Plant near: most garden crops

Keep away from: rue

Comments: improves the flavor and growth of garden crops, especially tomatoes and lettuce. Repels mosquitoes.

Beans, Bush (<http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/growing-beans-zmaz09jjzraw>)

Plant near: beets, cabbage, carrots, catnip, cauliflower, corn, cucumbers, marigolds, potatoes, savory, strawberries

Keep away from: fennel, garlic, leeks, onions, shallots

Comments: potatoes and marigolds repel Mexican bean beetles. Catnip repels flea beetles.

Beans, Pole

Plant near: corn, marigolds, potatoes, radishes

Keep away from: beets, garlic, kohlrabi, leeks, onions, shallots

Comments: same as for bush beans.

Beets (<http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/vegetables/growing-beets-zm0z12fmzkon>)

Plant near: broccoli, brussels sprouts, bush beans, cabbage, cauliflower, chard, kohlrabi, onions

Keep away from: charlock, field mustard, pole beans

Comments:

Borage

Plant near: squash, strawberries, tomatoes

Keep away from:

Comments: repels tomato worms. Improves flavor and growth of companions.

Broccoli (<http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/growing-broccoli-zmaz09aszraw>) and Brussels Sprouts (<http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/vegetables/growing-brussels-sprouts-zw0z1312zsto>)

Plant near: beets, buckwheat, calendula, carrots, chamomile, dill, hyssop, marigolds, mints, nasturtiums, onions, rosemary, sage, thyme, wormwood.
Keep away from: strawberries
Comments: marigolds repel cabbage moths. Nasturtiums repel aphids.

Cabbage (<http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/vegetables/growing-cabbage-zmoz12aszkon>) and Cauliflower (<http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/growing-broccoli-cauliflower/growing-cauliflower-zwoz1312zsto>)

Plant near: broccoli, brussels sprouts, celery, chard, spinach, tomatoes.
Keep away from: strawberries
Comments: tomatoes and celery repel cabbage worms.

Cantaloupe (<http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/fruits/growing-melons-zmoz11zkon>)

Plant near: corn
Keep away from:
Comments:

Carrots (<http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/learn-how-to-grow-carrots-zmaz08aszgoe>)

Plant near: cabbage, chives, early potatoes, leeks, lettuce, onions, peas, radishes, rosemary, sage, salsify, wormwood.
Keep away from:
Comments: onions, leeks, and wormwood repel carrot flies

Chives

Plant near: apples, berries, carrots, grapes, peas, roses, tomatoes.
Keep away from:
Comments: Improves flavor and growth of companions. Deters aphids and Japanese beetles.

Corn (<http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/growing-sweet-corn-zmaz08jjzmcc>)

Plant near: beans, cucumbers, early potatoes, melons, peas, pumpkins, soybeans, squash.
Keep away from:
Comments: soybeans deter chinch bugs.

Cucumbers (<http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/vegetables/growing-cucumbers-zmoz11zkon>)

Plant near: beans, cabbage, corn, early potatoes, radishes, sunflowers.
Keep away from: late potatoes
Comments: Radishes deter cucumber beetles. Cucumbers encourage blight in late potatoes.

Dill

Plant near: broccoli, brussels sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, cucumber, lettuce, onions
Keep away from: carrots
Comments: Improves flavor and growth of cabbage family plants.

Eggplant (<http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/fruits/growing-eggplant-zmoz12djzkin>)

Plant near: green beans, peppers, potatoes, tomatoes
Keep away from:
Comments: green beans deter Colorado potato beetles.

Garlic (<http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/growing-garlic-zmaz09onzraw>)

Plant near: cabbage, cane fruits, fruit trees, roses, tomatoes

Keep away from: peas, beans

Comments: deters Japanese beetles and aphids. A garlic oil spray deters onion flies, aphids, and ermine moths. A garlic tea helps repel late potato blight.

Kale (<http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/vegetables/growing-kale-collards-zwoz1401zsto>)

Plant near: aromatic herbs, buckwheat, cabbage family, marigolds, nasturtiums

Keep away from: pole beans, strawberries

Comments:

Kohlrabi (<http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/vegetables/growing-kohlrabi-zwoz1401zsto>)

Plant near: cabbage/cauliflower companions (except tomatoes)

Keep away from: fennel, pole beans, tomatoes

Comments: kohlrabi stunts tomatoes

Lettuce (<http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/growing-lettuce-zmaz08amzmcc>)

Plant near: beets, carrots/parsnips, radishes, strawberries

Keep away from: cabbage family

Comments: lettuce tenderizes summer radishes.

Marigolds

Plant near: all garden crops

Keep away from:

Comments: stimulates vegetable growth and deters bean beetles, aphids, potato bugs, squash bugs, nematodes, and maggots.

Marjoram

Plant near: all garden crops

Keep away from:

Comments: stimulates vegetable growth.

Mustard

Plant near: alfalfa cover crops, fruit trees, grapes, legumes

Keep away from:

Comments: stimulates growth of companion plants.

Nasturtiums

Plant near: apples, beans, cabbage family, greenhouse crops, potatoes, pumpkins, radishes, squash

Keep away from:

Comments: repels aphids, potato bugs, squash bugs, striped pumpkin beetles, and Mexican bean beetles and destroys white flies in greenhouses.

Onions (<http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/growing-onions-zmaz09djzraw>)

Plant near: beets, cabbage family, carrots, chamomile, lettuce, parsnips

Keep away from: beans, peas

Comments: deters most pests, especially maggots.

Oregano

Plant near: all garden crops

Keep away from:

Comments: deters many insect pests.

Parsley

Plant near: corn, roses, tomatoes

Keep away from:

Comments:

Parsnips (<http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/vegetables/growing-parsnips-zwoz1401zsto>)

Plant near: onions, radishes, wormwood

Keep away from:

Comments: onions and wormwood help keep root maggots from parsnips.

Peas (<http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/growing-peas-zmaz09fmzraw>)

Plant near: beans, carrots, corn, cucumbers, early potatoes, radishes, turnips

Keep away from: garlic leeks, onions, shallots

Comments:

Peppers (<http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/growing-peppers/growing-peppers-zmaz10fmzraw>)

Plant near: basil, carrots, eggplant, onions, parsley, tomatoes

Keep away from: fennel, kohlrabi

Comments:

Potatoes (<http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/growing-potatoes-early-midseason-and-late-varieties-zmazo8djzgoe>)

Plant near: basil, beans, cabbage family, corn, eggplant, flax, hemp, marigolds, peas, squash

Keep away from: apples, birch, cherries, cucumbers, pumpkins, raspberries, sunflowers, tomatoes, walnuts

Comments: hemp deters *phytophthora infestans*. Basil deters potato beetles. Marigolds (dug into crop soil) deter nematodes.

Radishes (<http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/growing-radishes-zmazo8fmzmcc>)

Plant near: chervil, cucumbers, lettuce, melons, peas, nasturtiums, root crops

Keep away from: hyssop

Comments: radishes deter cucumber beetles. Chervil makes radishes hot. Lettuce helps make radishes tender. Nasturtiums improve radishes' flavor.

Rosemary

Plant near: beans, cabbage, carrots

Keep away from:

Comments: repels bean beetles, cabbage moths, and carrot flies.

Sage

Plant near: cabbage family, carrots, tomatoes

Keep away from: cucumbers

Comments: deters cabbage moths and carrot flies. Invigorates tomato plants.

Soybeans

Plant near: corn, potatoes

Keep away from:

Comments: chokes weeds and enriches soil.

Spinach (<http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/learn-how-to-grow-spinach-zmazo8onzgoe>)

Plant near: celery, cauliflower, eggplant, strawberries

Keep away from:

Comments:

Strawberries (<http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/fruits/growing-strawberries-zmoz11zkon>)

Plant near: borage, bush beans, lettuce, pyrethrum, spinach

Keep away from: cabbage family

Comments:

Sunflowers (<http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/growing-summer-grain-crops-zm0z13onzkin>)

Plant near: cucumbers

Keep away from: potatoes

Comments: can provide a trellis and shelter for shade-loving cucumbers.

Swiss Chard (<http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/growing-swiss-chard-zmaz09amzraw>)

Plant near: bush beans, kohlrabi, onions

Keep away from: pole beans

Comments:

Tarragon

Plant near: all garden crops

Keep away from:

Comments: improves vegetables' flavor and growth.

Thyme

Plant near: all garden crops

Keep away from:

Comments: deters cabbage moths.

Tomatoes (<http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/growing-tomatoes/growing-tomatoes-zm0z11zsto>)

Plant near: asparagus, basil, cabbage family, carrots, gooseberries, mustard, parsley, onions, rosemary, sage, stinging nettles

Keep away from: fennel, kohlrabi, potatoes, walnuts

Comments:

Turnips and Rutabagas (<http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/vegetables/growing-turnips-zm0z13aszkin>)

Plant near: peas

Keep away from: knotweed, mustard

Comments: mustard and knotweed inhibit the growth of turnips and rutabagas.

For more information on how-to set up your own garden:

- [How to Build Raised Beds for Next to Nothing \(http://www.motherearthnews.com/diy/how-to-build-raised-garden-beds-for-next-to-nothing-zbcz1606\)](http://www.motherearthnews.com/diy/how-to-build-raised-garden-beds-for-next-to-nothing-zbcz1606)
- [How to Start a Vegetable Garden \(http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/garden-planning/how-to-start-a-vegetable-garden-zm0z16amzsto\)](http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/garden-planning/how-to-start-a-vegetable-garden-zm0z16amzsto)
- [Growing Herbs: A Little Goes a Long Way \(http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/growing-herbs-zmaz70mazglo\)](http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/growing-herbs-zmaz70mazglo)
- [Grow Your Best Fall Garden Vegetable: What, When and How \(http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/fall-garden-vegetables-zmaz09aszraw\)](http://www.motherearthnews.com/organic-gardening/fall-garden-vegetables-zmaz09aszraw)

Check out these recipes:

- [Mixed Bean Recipe with Lemon Dill Butter \(http://www.motherearthnews.com/real-food/mixed-beans-recipe-zerz1509zcwil\)](http://www.motherearthnews.com/real-food/mixed-beans-recipe-zerz1509zcwil)
- [Young Carrots with French Tarragon Recipe \(http://www.motherearthliving.com/food-and-recipes/recipes/young-carrots-recipe-zmoz16mjzolz\)](http://www.motherearthliving.com/food-and-recipes/recipes/young-carrots-recipe-zmoz16mjzolz)
- [Onion and Kale Pizza Recipe \(http://www.motherearthliving.com/food-and-recipes/vegetarian-recipes/onion-kale-pizza-recipe-zm013sozmel\)](http://www.motherearthliving.com/food-and-recipes/vegetarian-recipes/onion-kale-pizza-recipe-zm013sozmel)

EDITOR'S NOTE: Companion planting is not an exact science. Use your own experience, this chart, and the advice of other local gardeners to help you achieve successful partnerships in your garden.