

# Growing Thyme Outdoors

*Thymus vulgaris*

## QUICK FACTS

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USDA ZONES

**4–9**

SUNLIGHT

**Full Sun**

## AT A GLANCE

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Thyme is perennial in zones 4–9 and demands well-drained soil above all else. Wet, heavy soil -- especially in winter -- kills thyme faster than cold temperatures. It will become woody and unproductive without annual pruning in spring. Cut it back by one-third after flowering each year to keep fresh growth coming from the base.

## PLANTING CHECKLIST

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- Match site to sun requirements above before buying
- Test soil drainage — dig a 12" hole, fill with water, time it (should drain in 1–2 hrs)
- Dig hole 2x wider than rootball, same depth
- Backfill with native soil — do NOT amend the planting hole
- Water deeply at planting and weekly for first 3 weeks
- Mulch 2" deep, keep mulch 2" away from trunk/stems

## FULL GUIDE WITH SOURCES

<https://outdoorplantcare.com/vegetables/growing-thyme/>

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