

Tomato

Solanum lycopersicum

QUICK FACTS

LIFECYCLE

Annual (or tender perennial)

SUNLIGHT

Full Sun

HEIGHT

2–4 ft

AT A GLANCE

Know whether your tomato is determinate or indeterminate before you stake, cage, or prune it -- the entire support strategy changes. Late blight prevention is not a rescue mission; it is bottom-watering, mulch, and airflow before symptoms appear. Start with the right cultivar choice, plant at the right time, and the rest is manageable.

PLANTING CHECKLIST

- 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/tomato-plant-care/>

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