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# Grow your own

*groceries*

# Five Easy Steps

## *TO GET GROWING*

1. Find the light. Aim for 6–8 hours of sun for most fruiting vegetables. In Central Texas, some afternoon shade can help during extreme summer heat.

2. Start small. Try a few containers or one 4 × 4-foot raised bed. You can always expand after your first harvest.

3. Give roots a good home. Start with healthy, well-draining soil. Need a recipe? Grab our free Dirt on Good Soil guide!

4. Pick what you love. Choose two or three easy crops you'll use in your kitchen. One of our favorites? Basil! It grows quickly in warm weather, keeps producing when harvested, and makes you feel wildly successful. You may end up with more pesto than you know what to do with.

5. Water, mulch, and look around. Water deeply when needed, mulch to slow evaporation, and check leaves regularly for pests. Consistency beats perfection.

*Garden Tip:* Plant the basil. You'll feel like a gardening genius by July. Mostly because you'll have enough to feed the neighborhood.

Keep harvesting basil above the pair of lowest leaves to encourage branching. Remove flower spikes if you want more tender leaves. Basil loves warmth but is frost-sensitive.

# What should I grow?

*An easy seasonal starting point for Central Texas*

Think in seasons, not just spring! Our long growing year gives you several chances to try something new.

## SHERI'S FIRST PICKS FOR EASY GROWING

Spring - Bush beans, cucumbers, tomatoes (transplants)

Summer - Basil, okra, southern peas, sweet potatoes

Fall - Radishes, carrots, lettuce, kale

Winter - Spinach and other cold-hardy greens; garlic planted in fall



Texas timing tip: Planting windows vary by location and weather. Tomatoes and basil need warmth; lettuce and many greens prefer cooler conditions. Watch frost dates and summer heat before planting.

*The Most Important*

# Garden Checklist

- A garden space that gets 6–8 hours of sunlight, or large pots with drainage holes for container gardening (and put them IN that sunny spot).
- Seeds or healthy transplants for 2–3 crops
- Good soil, compost as needed, and mulch
- A watering plan and a few minutes to check plants & weed each day





# Ready to dig a little deeper?

Our 2027 Central Texas Garden Calendar helps you plan what to grow throughout the year. Want advice for your exact space, soil, or a finicky plant? Explore Bijou's Blooms garden consultations and coaching.

Find the calendar, more free garden resources, and coaching at **bijousblooms.co**.

Simple starts. Abundant harvests. A little dirt-covered joy.