



Tomato Terminology

Beefsteak - a type of tomato rather than a variety; usually considered a large, irregular shaped tomato with solid flesh

Cherry - small, cherry-sized (or a little larger) fruit with plants ranging in size from dwarf to well over 6 feet tall

Container varieties – midget, patio, or dwarf tomato varieties with very compact vines and do best when grown in 5-gallon or larger containers, or in large hanging baskets; some produce fairly large fruit but the fruit are often of poorer quality than fruit from standard-sized plants; usually short-lived, producing their crop quickly over a short period

Crack resistant - a characteristic of a tomato variety that inherently resists breaks in its skin

Determinate – plants with a somewhat bushy appearance, grow to a given size, about 3 to 5 feet, bear most of their fruit within about 4 - 6 weeks, and then decline in vigor; most early-ripening and canning tomato varieties are of the determinate type

Disease resistance

A	Alternaria stem canker
F	Fusarium wilt
FF	Fusarium, races 1 and 2
FFF	Fusarium, races 1, 2, and 3
N	Nematodes
T	<i>Tobacco mosaic virus</i> (TMV)
St	Stemphylium gray leaf spot
V	Verticillium wilt

F1 hybrid - first generation seeds that come from plants with two specific parents

F2 hybrid - seeds that come from crossing two F1 hybrid parents

Globe - a round-shaped tomato

Grape - an elongated and more oval-shaped tomato, generally smaller than cherry tomatoes with firmer, thicker skin

Heirloom – open-pollinated variety having some considerable ancestry and history of use

Hybrid – man-made variety that is a cross between two distinctly different parents

Indeterminate - plants that continue to grow and set fruit all summer until they are killed by frost or disease; many typical standard-sized tomatoes for the home garden are indeterminate varieties

(Days to)

Maturity - the number of days from transplanting seedling to the first mature fruit

Open-pollinated - seeds produce plants and fruit that are identical to their parent; all heirloom varieties are open-pollinated but not all open-pollinated varieties are heirloom varieties

Pear - shaped like a pear, meaty with firm flesh, very few seeds and little gel; also known as plum, paste, Italian or Roma tomatoes

Plum - medium- to small-sized, oval or cylindrical in shape, thick-walled with fewer seed compartments; also called paste or Roma tomatoes

Slicing tomato - a term used to classify tomatoes based on the size and shape of the fruit, these are uniformly round; also called globe tomatoes

Standard-sized varieties - produce fruit ranging from a few ounces each to beefsteak types that may weigh as much as 2 pounds or more

Variety - a named "type" of a species having certain distinguishing characteristics - taste, shape, color, size, length of season, disease resistance, etc.



Prepared by Marin Master Gardeners, February, 2012





Tips for Growing Great Tomatoes

Most tomato varieties available to the home gardener produce flavorful and juicy fruit and require relatively little space for a large yield. When properly cared for, each tomato plant can bear 10 to 15 pounds or more of fruit. They are warm-weather plants that like sunshine and produce best when planted in a well-exposed area in the garden with daytime temperatures between 80 – 90°F, and nighttime temperatures above 50 – 55°F.

Select the planting site

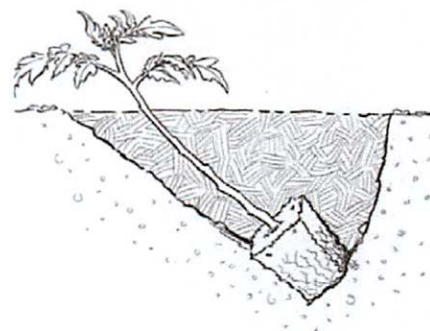
- Plant in a location with full sunlight (at least 6 hours a day)
- Location should be a well-exposed area in the garden not shaded by trees, fences, or walls
- Plant away from areas that will be watered by lawn sprinklers
- Avoid areas heavily infested with weeds or that have had previous disease problems

Prepare the soil

- Medium-textured, soft, well-drained soil is optimal
- Light sandy soils or heavy clay soils are hard to work with but can be made easier with amendments
- Add large amounts of sifted compost or other soil amendments so that the planting area (raised beds) are above the previous level of soil

Planting

- Plant after the danger of frost has passed
- Allow 2 - 3 feet between plants
- Plant young plants with 4 to 6 true leaves, slightly hardened to outdoor conditions
- Water plants thoroughly before planting
- Plant in late afternoon so water loss from the plants will be minimized during the cooler overnight hours
- Ease plants out of the container before transplanting and gently loosen the roots
- Avoid handling the main stems of transplants (the tiny "hairs" on the stems become valuable roots when buried in the soil); try to handle them by the leaves or root ball
- Pinch off the lower leaves of tall, lanky plants with few leaves and set the plants into the soil horizontally with just a few sets of top leaves showing above the ground
- Press soil firmly around each transplant so that a slight depression is formed for holding water
- Water in thoroughly to settle the soil and eliminate any air pockets around the roots



Watering

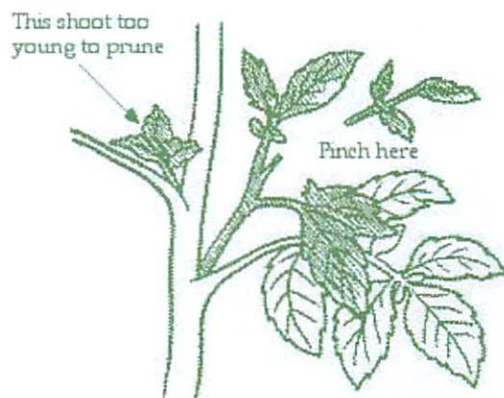
- Avoid wetting the foliage or fruit with overhead watering
- Keep adequate moisture in the deeper soil layers even when plants are small
- Water deeply by drip or furrow irrigation to encourage deep rooting; if the first 2 inches of soil is dry then water; if moist, do not water
- Gradually reduce the frequency of watering to every 7 - 10 days for mature plants that have set fruit

Fertilizing

- Healthy, vigorous transplants should not require additional fertilizer until flowering and fruit set are well under way
- Minimize nitrogen fertilizer during the initial growth period; it produces green vegetative growth but will delay flowering and fruit set and make the plants more attractive to insect pests
- At fruit set, side dress with nitrogen fertilizer every 4 - 6 weeks following instructions on the product label

Pruning

- Pruning is not always necessary
 - Plants with two or more stems produce more tomatoes with better foliage protection from the sun than plants with one stem
 - Plants pruned to one leader will bear earlier but with less yield overall
 - A dense leaf canopy may reduce the incidence of black mold and cracking but may increase the incidence of other fruit molds such as gray mold
 - Severe pruning to one stem will reduce your total crop greatly and also is likely to increase the incidence of some diseases or disorders
- Choose the stems you want to keep and pinch out the others as they develop
- Before removing suckers or side shoots on a tomato plant, wait until two leaves develop and pinch above them



Provide support

- Indeterminate varieties need to be supported by sturdy trellises, cages, or stakes

Harvest and store

- Harvest when fruit are at full color for the variety
- Store at 55° to 70°F to maintain their fresh, ripe flavor
- Lengthy refrigeration causes flavor loss and browning discoloration of fruit

Key Temperatures

Temperature (F)	Comments
100°	Flowers will not set
80°–90°	Optimum growth
50°–55°	Minimum night temperature for fruit set
45°	Will grow slowly
32°	Potential injury by frost



Information and diagrams courtesy of UC IPM website and UC ANR
Publication 8159
Prepared by Marin Master Gardeners, February, 2012





GROWING TOMATOES IN THE HOME GARDEN 2017 RESOURCES

Growing Tomatoes in the Home Garden

<http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu/pdf/8159.pdf>

Problem Diagnosis for Tomatoes

http://vric.ucdavis.edu/pdf/TOMATO/tomatoes_HomeGarden.pdf

Tomato Fertilization

<http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/r783900711.html>

How to Manage Pests

<http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/selectnewpest.tomatoes.html>

Vegetable Garden Basics

<http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu/pdf/8059.pdf>

Composting is good for your garden and the environment

<http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu/pdf/8367.pdf>

Mulches in California Vegetable Crop Production

<http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu/pdf/8129/pdf>

UC Master Gardeners of Napa County

<http://ucanr.edu/sites/ucmgnapa/>

University of California Gardening Web

<http://cagardenweb.ucdavis.edu/>

UC ANR catalog orders

<http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu>

Vegetable Research and Information Center

<http://vric.ucdavis.edu/>



TOMATO PLANT SALE & EDUCATION DAY 2017

TOMATO VARIETIES FOR SALE

RED

BEEFSTEAK: Produces huge, delicious, meaty, ribbed fruit on vigorous vines. Favorite sliced for sandwiches. Grow this tall plant in wire cages for best results. HEIRLOOM - 96 DTM

BETTER BOY: NEW TO SALE Popular because of extremely high yield of smooth skin, large (1lb) fruit. Dense foliage. Classic balanced taste makes a great slicing tomato. Best staked or in a large cage. HYBRID - 73 DTM - RESISTANT TO: Verticillium, Fusarium 1, Nematodes, Alternaria, Gray Leaf Spot

BOXCAR WILLIE: Offers a very heavy crop of good-sized (6 to 10 oz), smooth red tomatoes with excellent tasting fruit good for a variety of uses through a long season. Because of their abundance and medium to large size, they could well be a mainstay of your crop. HEIRLOOM - 80 DTM

BRANDY BOY: NEW TO SALE Produces lots of tangy-sweet, smooth, thin skin, meaty 1 lb. dark pink fruits. Great in salads. Vigorous, needs sturdy stakes or cage. HYBRID OF CLASSIC BRANDYWINE - 78 DTM - RESISTANT TO: Fusarium, Verticillium, Nematodes, Tobacco Mosaic Virus

BRANDYWINE: For many one of the best tasting tomatoes. Flavor is rich, loud and distinctively spice. Large fruits are often over 1 lb. Have a deep pink skin and smooth red flesh. Foliage is potato-leaved. This "Quisenberry" strain is considered among the best. HEIRLOOM - 78 DTM

CRIMSON CARMELLO: Bred in France for fresh eating. These exquisite tasting 4 to 5 inch round, red, juicy tomatoes have the perfect sweet to acid balance. Extremely productive and disease resistant. HYBRID - 70 DTM - RESISTANT TO: Fusarium, Verticillium, Nematodes, Tobacco Mosaic Virus

EARLY GIRL: Favorite for "first of the season" early season slicing tomato. Produces large harvest of sweet, solid 4 to 6 oz. fruit. Good disease resistance. Performs well in almost any climate. Large (up to 8' vines) need staking or sturdy cages. HYBRID - 52 DTM - RESISTANT TO: Verticillium, Fusarium 1, Fusarium 2

STILETZ: NEW TO SALE Plentiful crops of 10 oz., deep red, full-flavored 4"-5" slicing tomatoes with a nice acidic tang. Almost seedless. Sets fruit in cooler climates. OP - DETERMINANT - 56 DTM - RESISTANT TO: Verticillium, Fusarium 1

OTHER COLORS

BLACK KRIM: Bold, smoky flavor and good texture with unusual deep brown/red color. 8 to 16 oz. tomatoes have brown/green shoulders that get darker with more heat and sunlight. High yielding. HEIRLOOM - 80 DTM

CHEROKEE PURPLE: Unusual variety with full flavor. Fruit is medium-large (8 to 12 oz.), flattened globe shaped. Dusky rose color with dark shoulders. Interior ranges from purple to brown to green. HEIRLOOM - 72 DTM

CHOCOLATE STRIPES: Produces stunningly, beautiful mahogany-colored 4-6" tomatoes with dark olive green striping. Rich, earthy flavor and a very productive plant. Many fruit weigh a pound. OP - 79 DTM

GOLDIE: NEW TO SALE Produces good yields of huge 1 to 2 lb. deep orange, low-acid beefsteak style fruits. Very sweet, juicy, and meaty. One of the best orange tomatoes. Good for sandwiches, salads, and slicing. OP - 75 DTM

GREEN ZEBRA: Beautiful chartreuse tomatoes with deep line-green stripes. Flesh is bright green and rich tasting, sweet with a sharp bite to it. Excellent yield of 3 oz. fruit. HEIRLOOM - 75 DTM

KELLOG'S BREAKFAST: NEW TO SALE Thin-skinned, meaty 1 to 2 lb slightly flattened orange beefsteak fruits. Because of its sweet, tangy flavor a favorite. Large plants need staking. HEIRLOOM - 85 DTM

D = Determinate DTM = Days To Maturity OP = Open Pollinated
ALL TOMATO PLANTS ARE INDETERMINATE UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

SAT, APRIL 8th 9 A.M. TIL SOLD OUT 1710 Soscol Ave, Napa BYOB (Bring Your Own Box!)

MARVEL STRIPE: Vigorous favorite of gardeners because of its beauty, large size, and taste. Large (1-2 lb.) yellow-orange fruits are streaked with ruby red. Delicious sweet, fruity taste. Heirloom - 85 DTM

SUMMER OF LOVE: NEW TO SALE Improved Berkley-Tie-Dye tomato produces a larger yield and ripens earlier. It has all the great colors (port wine-colored beefsteak with beautiful green stripes and deep brick-red interior flesh) and flavor of the original. More productive with an earlier harvest. HYBRID - 75 DTM

PASTA & SAUCE

BIG MAMA: Beautiful plum-shaped, meaty and enormous (up to 5"x3" across). Skin peels away easily after parboiling. Very flavorful with few seeds. Produces delicious, thick, creamy sauce and excellent salsa. HYBRID - 80 DTM

OPALKA: Of Polish origin plants are vigorous and very productive. Extremely meaty fruit has very few seeds and with rich, sweet flavor. Makes great tasting sauce but is good enough to eat fresh. Large tomatoes (at least 5" long) are shaped like a banana pepper with a pronounced tip on the bottom. HEIRLOOM - 75 DTM

ROMA: A popular old favorite with good yields. Prized for its use in tomato paste and sauces. Produces a large harvest of thick-walled, meaty, bright red, egg-shaped tomatoes about 3 inches long with few seeds. Not juicy nor is it a slicing tomato. But the thick, drier flesh cooks into a thick sauce. Freezes well. HEIRLOOM - DETERMINATE - 75 DTM

SAN MARZANO: Prized for canning, tomato paste, or puree. Favorite for Italian sauces. Teardrop shaped small (3-1/2" long) fruit with complex flavor and a meaty texture. Bright red color. Heavy fruit loads need sturdy stakes or cages. One plant needs a 10 gallon container or half wine barrel. HEIRLOOM - 85 DTM

CHERRY

BLACK CHERRY: Perfectly round cherry with classic black tomato flavor. Sweet yet rich and complex. Abundantly produced on vigorous tall plants, fruit picks clean from stem. Irresistibly delicious. A unique addition to the color spectrum of tomatoes. HEIRLOOM - 65 DTM

BLUSH: Beautiful red and gold combine with a translucent quality to give these elongated cherries serious visual appeal! Excellent sweet, fruity flavor, elongated shape (2-1/2"x1-1/4"). OP - 70 DTM

JAUNE FLAMME: NEW TO SALE Perfect flavor, fruity blend of sweet and tart. Excels, whether dried or roasted, the slices retain their deep orange color. Early producer, ample crops of apricot-colored 3 oz. fruits borne on elongated trusses. Short vine good for containers with cage or stake. HEIRLOOM - 75 DTM

JULIET: NEW TO SALE Looks like a miniature Italian plum tomato. Deep red flavorful 1 oz. fruit is juicy, very sweet, and great for salads, salsa and fresh pasta sauce. Big vines (6'-8' tall) produce grape-like clusters of 12-18 fruits. Good crack resistance, vine storage, and shelf life. HYBRID - 60 DTM - RESISTANT TO: Alternaria Blight & Late Blight

NAPA ROSE: NEW TO SALE Very productive elongated, shiny red 1" globes produce in abundance on the vigorous vines. Unique pink color. Good flavor that is sweet and rich. Exceptional hang time on the vine. Can be harvested by cutting the entire cluster off for a very pretty and unique look. Does well in cool and hot conditions. OP - 68 DTM

RAPUNZEL: NEW TO SALE Produces unique, very long cascading trusses with up to 40 (3/4 to 1 oz.) fruits. Very flavorful, bright red fruits make the perfect addition to salads and veggie trays. Best staked. HYBRID - 70 DTM

SUNGOLD: Produces very sweet, bright orange cherry tomatoes with a sugary, fruity taste. Popular because of its reliability. Vigorous tall plants bear long clusters of fruit. HYBRID - 57 DTM

SWEET 100: Huge, multiple-branched clusters of 1/2" very sweet fruit high in vitamin C. Mouthwatering flavor. Vigorous vine bears abundantly until frost. Stake for best results. HYBRID - DETERMINATE - 65 DTM

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TIPS FOR TOMATO GROWING SUCCESS AND FOR GROWING TOMATOES IN CONTAINERS

TOMATO GROWING SUCCESS

1. Read labels carefully and choose varieties that are right for you.
2. Find the sun. Tomatoes want sun and heat. At least 8 hours per day.
3. Add organic fertilizer and liberal amounts of compost. Better soil = better tomatoes.
4. Dig deep and plant deep. Snip off the lowest leaves and leave only 3-4 inches.
5. Water correctly. Soak the root ball every 3 or 4 days for the first few weeks.
6. Fertilize wisely. And organic food in the hole at planting. Side dress when plant begins to flower.
7. Container growers, disregard 5 and 6. See more container tips below!
8. Support your tomatoes. They don't have to be pretty, but they've got to be held up.
9. Be diligent. Watch your tomatoes each day in order to note changes that might signal a problem.
10. Enjoy your tomatoes when truly ripe—that means true deep color and some softness.

TOMATOES IN CONTAINERS

1. Good idea! Good drainage, some mobility if needed, efficient use of space.
2. Use large pots. A wine barrel or large pulp pot is good. 15 x 15" minimum.
3. Fill the container with new, fresh, premium potting soil.
4. Container varieties are bred to be short and stocky.
5. ONE plant per container. Plant deep so part of the stem is buried.
6. Place pot where it will get 8 hours of sun per day. Move around if needed.
7. Add stakes or a cage, no matter what size the tomato or plant. Do it at planting.
8. Water regularly and be sure to soak the root ball. When hot, water twice a day.
9. Fertilize every 10 to 14 days with an organic fertilizer.
10. Mulch the top of the soil to protect the roots and keep soil temps consistent.

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