

Chive

Hardy, perennial, and easy to grow, the chopped stems and pink flowers add a fresh, mild green onion flavour to sandwiches, salads, and baked potatoes. Clumps can be divided in spring or fall. If grown in containers, divide frequently enough to provide for constant lateral growth. Chives are surprisingly hardy and can be harvested all winter if given some protection from extreme cold.

Matures in 30-60 days

Season: Cool Season

Exposure: Full sun

Difficulty: Easy



Growing

Start indoors from late winter through mid-spring, and transplant or direct sow once the soil has warmed in late spring.

Sow 5mm-1cm ($\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ ") deep and keep moist until germination. If starting indoors, use bottom heat and plant 10-15 seeds per cell in a cell plug tray. Transplant either into containers or the garden once the soil has warmed up. Space clumps 15cm (6") apart. Clumps of chives spread to about 30cm (12") across. They should be divided at that point and replanted to stand 30cm (12") apart or broken up for container planting.

Saving

Allow the herbs to flower and the flower heads to dry. Snip the flower heads off and dry them out in a warm, dry place. To collect the seeds, shake the dry flower head into a paper bag or bucket. Put the seeds into a dated and labeled envelope and return to Brock!