



Welcome to the wonderful world of seed sharing!

When we are collecting our seeds for sharing there are a number of considerations to be made and knowledge to gather.

We need to know the type of seed we are drying/collecting with the main consideration being the amount of moisture that the seed has.

NOTE: Incorrectly drying and storage of seeds can create such things as ineffective seeds, discolouration and toxin production; as well as a growth of fungus.

Useful/necessary equipment

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|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Viable plants | Glass jars |
| Mature seeds | Paper towel |
| Screen | Envelopes |
| Dry, ventilated location | Labels |
| Warm water | Paper bags - optional |

This chart gives a rough guide to choose, prepare and gather your seeds.



Hybrid plants	produce seeds that are sterile or don't reproduce true to their parent plant	go online to find out about your seeds.
Open pollinated plants	have to be isolated from other plants in their families so they don't cross pollinate	squash, melon, parsley, broccoli, celery, spinach, cauliflower, kale, radish, beets, onions & basil.
Harvest seeds	from the best plants that you have.	
Choose plants	that are disease free or have the prettiest flowers or best tasting fruit.	
Harvest only mature seeds	when the plants flowers are faded and dry; plants with pods are ready when the pods are brown and dry.	
Use a dry method	to save seeds from beans, peas, carrots, onions, corn and most flowers and most herbs	allow seeds to dry for as long as possible on the plant and then remove them to a screen to finish drying in a single layer. For smaller light weight seeds put the heads into a paper bags to catch the seeds as they fall out.
Use the wet method	for tomatoes, cucumbers and roses	scoop out the seed masses from the fruit and put them in a jar with warm water. Let them ferment for 2-4 days - stirring daily. The viable seeds will sink to the bottom. Pull out the pulp, bad seeds and mold. Spread the good seeds onto paper towel to dry.
Make sure your seeds are thoroughly dry when you store them.	Keep them in envelopes or glass jars with the seed type and date.	
And then put them in the freezer for 2 days to kills any pests.		
Most seeds lose viability over time	so plant them within 2 to 3 years of harvest	Parsley, sweet corn and onion must be planted the following year.