

Emerald Goddess Gardens

emeraldgoddessgardens.com

A Gift from Our Garden

Botanical Name	Tagetes patula
Common Name	French Marigold
Mature Size	18 inches
Bloom Color	Gold Dark Red Orange
Bloom Period	Summer and Fall
Bloom Form	Double Carnation
Water	Moderate
Light	Full Sun
Fragrance	None
Uses	Annual Bedding or Potted Plant
Special Features	Classic Favorite Annual EZ Care
USDA Hardiness	Warm Season Annual in All Zones



Tagetes patula (aka French marigolds) is one of our favorite Fall color bedding and potted annual plants. They generally grow smaller, bushier, and more compact than other Marigolds, can't be beat for brilliant, eye catching, fast pops of gold, yellow, orange and maroon. They are also the most tolerant species of Marigold for very hot and humid conditions. However avoid planting them in shade.

Seeds can be sown directly into the garden once the danger of frost is past and soil has warmed or can be germinated indoors. However, they germinate so easily and grow so fast there is little reason to do this. Leaves will begin to emerge in about a week in warm weather followed by flowers about 6 to 8 weeks later.

Space seeds about an inch apart and an inch deep in moist soil or potting media. Thin or transplant seedlings about 8 to 10 inches apart. Maintain consistent moisture and monitor closely the first week so new sprouts don't dry out. When transplanting, handle carefully and water thoroughly after planting.

For direct sowing into containers, use a fairly dense potting media with a starter fertilizer charge or incorporate a slow release plant food into the media. Plant as above and thin or transplant to avoid overcrowding.

Enjoy!

For quick answers to your growing or planting questions, just email us at service@emeraldgoddessgardens.com

If you don't know your USDA Planting Zone, you can check the map on our website site at emeraldgoddessgardens.com

Please accept this gift from our garden:

- It is sent with our thanks, and in an effort to keep the old tradition of pass-along seeds plants alive.
- We understand that it might not be a plant you like, or even have a spot for. If that should be the case, then please pass it along to a friend. (Along with our contact information, we hope!)
- We change the type of plant that we enclose frequently, so you can anticipate a new surprise with each new order, but are not able to accommodate requests for specific items.
- *Enjoy and please come back often!*

The Family and Staff of: ***Emerald Goddess***

Gardens Emeraldgoddessgardens.com

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Getting your seeds started:

Germination times and requirements for seeds can vary greatly, but Marigolds are remarkably reliable and easy to grow.

- Sow when danger of frost has passed and soil is warm. No need to pre-soak.
- Use a good quality commercial potting media if sowing directly into pots.
- Water regularly to keep the top layer of soil consistently moist, but not soggy.
- Locate so that the plant can receive direct, full spectrum, light for several hours daily, Marigolds can withstand direct sun, but take care that the top inch where seeds are located does not dry out, as new seedlings can bake and fry quickly.
- Be sure the pot can drain and that the bottom of the pot does not sit submerged in water for more than a day
- Once small sprouts begin to emerge, decrease watering so that the top ½” of soil is allowed to dry between watering. If sprouts begin to droop, they are ready to be watered.
- Thin sprouts as they emerge and replant in a new container or dispose of to achieve the desired number of plants in each pot or bed
- Monitor for signs of disease or insects and treat accordingly
- Protect from freeze and frost
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Gift plants are our courtesy way of saying Thank You and that we appreciate your order, and are not covered by any Warranty that may apply to your paid order. We hope you will enjoy watching your seeds grow into something amazing!

**Image courtesy of CCC*