



Royal
Horticultural
Society

Harvested Seed Germination Requirements

Successful Seed Sowing

The Seed Team at Wisley thank you for your order. We have enjoyed collecting seed for the seed list and hope that the plants you grow provide you with many years of pleasure.

General Guidelines

Specific requirements are detailed for each genus after these general guidelines.

Getting Ready

Before sowing the seed prepare all the pots. Use clean or new pots to reduce the risk of disease. A proprietary seed sowing compost usually provides excellent results. Mix up the compost to break up large lumps and to aerate it. Overfill the pot, tap the base on a surface to settle the compost, score off any excess and then lightly firm to make a smooth level surface. Leave a gap from the top of the pot depending on the size of the seed. For very small seed such as Begonia leave a small gap of about 2mm. For larger seed such as Matthiola and Lupinus leave a larger gap of between 5 to 10mm. Once all the pots are filled, soak them with an upturned fine rose attached to a watering can and allow excess water to drain away.

Sowing Seed

- **Fine Seed**
Mix seed with a small quantity of fine dry sand and put in the palm of your hand. Holding your hand above the pot gently tap your hand so the seed trickles out of your hand and is distributed evenly over the compost.
- **Medium Seed**
Seed may be sown directly from the packet, from a piece of folded paper or put some seed in the palm of your hand, pick up a pinch of seed and sprinkle the seed evenly over the compost.
- **Large Seed**
Place each seed on the compost, sowing up to 5 seeds in a 9cm pot depending on seed size.

The exception is seed labelled 'direct sow into individual pots' as these seedlings resent root disturbance. These seeds should be sown into individual pots of a suitable size and not transplanted at the seedling stage.

Sow seed thinly and evenly to give each seed the air, light and moisture it needs and to reduce the risk of disease.

Covering Seed

- **Fine Seed**
There is no need to cover very small fine seed such as Begonia, or seed that requires light for germination.
- **Seed germinating within 30 days**
Spring is the best time of year for most seed that germinates within 30 days. Cover seed with a layer of vermiculite to the lip of the pot. Cover to a depth of between 2 to 10mm depending on seed size. If using compost instead of vermiculite reduce the covering depth by half.

- **Seed germinating in 60 days or longer**

Seed should be covered with a 6mm layer using coarse grit instead of vermiculite.

Aftercare

Place pots in good light. A greenhouse or a cold frame is ideal and using a heated propagator in a greenhouse will speed up germination.

Overcoming Dormancy

Some seeds have factors that delay germination. Pre-treatment details are given on the seed packet where applicable. The main barriers delaying germination are: hard or watertight seed coats, chemical inhibitors, immature embryos and cold temperature requirements. Some seeds have more than one barrier to germination that have to be overcome in a certain order. For example the hard seed coat must be penetrated to allow water to enter the seed, releasing inhibitory chemicals. This then initiates the seed to respond to a period of chilling.

- **Delayed Germination**

Some seed may take over a year to germinate because they need more than one chilling period or treatment to break the dormancy or barriers preventing germination.

- **Cold moist stratification**

Sow seed and place outside in an open cold frame or place into damp compost and store in the fridge for up to 12 weeks.

- **Chipping or softening seed coats**

Hard seed coats may be softened by soaking in hot or cold water, or 'chipped' (nicked) with a sharp knife.

- **Warm stratification**

This may be necessary either to break down the hard seed coat or to mature the embryo. Put the seed in damp compost and place in the airing cupboard for a number of weeks before sowing.

Pricking Out

Germinated seedlings need good quality light to avoid becoming weak and spindly. To thin out the seedlings prick them out when the first true leaves have emerged. Prepare pots using a general potting compost, creating an even firm surface as before. Handle seedlings gently by the leaves. Use a pencil or dibber to tease out the seedlings and to make a hole in the newly prepared pot to put the seedling roots into. Fully moisten the compost carefully using an upturned fine rose on a watering can. Place the pots in good quality light.

Further Information

For further advice on seed sowing we recommend the RHS publication 'Propagating Plants' (Editor in Chief Alan Toogood, ISBN 9781405315258) rhs.org.uk

Genus	Temperature	Time to Germinate	Notes
Abelmoschus	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	30-90 days	
Abutilon	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Use well drained compost
Acacia	16°C-27°C (61°F-81°F)	30-90 days	Pre-soak in hot water
Acacia	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 1 year	Chilling may improve germination
Acantholimon	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 90 days	Use well drained compost Chilling may improve germination
Acanthus	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	30-90 days	
Acer	10°C-13°C (50°F-55°F)	more than 90 days	Cold stratify for 8 weeks Chilling may improve germination
Acis	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	more than 90 days	Species resents root disturbance - sow directly into suitable container
Aconitum	10°C-13°C (50°F-55°F)	up to 1 year	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Chilling may improve germination
Actaea	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	more than 90 days	Chilling may improve germination Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Adenophora	10°C-13°C (50°F-55°F)	30-90 days	Species resents root disturbance - sow directly into suitable container
Adlumia	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	Chilling may improve germination Sow in Spring
Agapanthus	16°C-18°C (61°F-64°F)	more than 90 days	
Agastache	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	30-90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Agrostemma	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	30-90 days	
Agrostis	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 30 days	
Albucca	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds Sow in Spring
Alcea	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Requires light to germinate
Alchemilla	16°C-18°C (61°F-64°F)	30-90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Allium	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 1 year	Cold stratify for 4 weeks Leave seeds uncovered when sown Keep moist and dark
Alnus	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	may take more than 1 year	Cold stratify for 4 weeks Lightly cover seeds Chilling may improve germination
Alstroemeria	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	up to 1 year	Pre-soak in cold water Lightly cover seeds Species resents root disturbance - sow directly into suitable container

Genus	Temperature	Time to Germinate	Notes
Althaea	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Requires light to germinate
Alyssum	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Requires light to germinate
Amaranthus	21°C-24°C (70°F-75°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Amelanchier	10°C-13°C (50°F-55°F)	up to 1 year	Lightly cover seeds Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Ampelodesmos	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown
Amsonia	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Anacampteros	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	up to 90 days	Use well drained compost Sow in Spring
Anemanthele	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Use well drained compost
Anemone	10°C-13°C (50°F-55°F)	up to 1 year	Lightly cover seeds
Anethum	10°C-13°C (50°F-55°F)	up to 30 days	Annuals may be suitable for sowing outside
Angelica	10°C-13°C (50°F-55°F)	30-90 days	
Anisodonteia	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Anomatheca	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 90 days	Species resents root disturbance - sow directly into suitable container Use well drained compost
Antennaria	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 90 days	Species resents root disturbance - sow directly into suitable container Sow in Spring
Anthericum	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds Species resents root disturbance - sow directly into suitable container Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Anthriscus	10°C-13°C (50°F-55°F)	up to 30 days	Sow in Spring
Anthyllis	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Pre-soak in hot water
Antirrhinum	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 30 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Requires light to germinate
Aquilegia	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	up to 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Chilling may improve germination
Arabis	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 30 days	
Aralia	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	may take more than 1 year	Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Arctium	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	30-90 days	
Arctostaphylos	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 1 year	Pre-soak in cold water
Arisaema	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 90 days	Cold stratify for 6 weeks

Genus	Temperature	Time to Germinate	Notes
Aristea	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	Use well drained compost
Aristolochia	18°C-24°C (64°F-75°F)	up to 30 days	Lightly cover seeds
Armeria	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Lightly cover seeds Keep moist and dark
Aronia	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 1 year	Cold stratify for 8 weeks Chilling may improve germination
Arthropodium	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	30-90 days	
Arum	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	may take more than 1 year	Chilling may improve germination Variable germination Sow in Spring
Aruncus	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	may take more than 1 year	Leave seeds uncovered when sown
Asclepias	16°C-18°C (61°F-64°F)	30-90 days	Cold stratify for 3 weeks Lightly cover seeds Requires light to germinate
Asphodeline	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Lightly cover seeds Species resents root disturbance - sow directly into suitable container
Asphodelus	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Lightly cover seeds Species resents root disturbance - sow directly into suitable container
Astilbe	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Requires light to germinate
Astragalus	10°C-13°C (50°F-55°F)	may take more than 1 year	Pre-soak in cold water; Chip seed
Astrantia	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 1 year	Cold stratify for 4 weeks Leave seeds uncovered when sown Requires light to germinate
Atriplex	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 30 days	Requires light to germinate
Aubrieta	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Requires light to germinate
Baptisia	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	Pre-soak in cold water
Beesia	10°C-15°C (50°F-59°F)	more than 90 days	Chilling may improve germination
Begonia	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	up to 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Keep moist and dark
Belamcanda	18°C-27°C (64°F-81°F)	30-90 days	
Bellevalla	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	more than 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Use well drained compost
Berberis	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 1 year	Cold stratify for 8 weeks Chilling may improve germination

Genus	Temperature	Time to Germinate	Notes
Berkheya	15°C-21°C (59°F-70°F)	more than 90 days	Lightly cover seeds Requires light to germinate
Betula	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	more than 90 days	Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Bidens	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Boykinia	16°C-18°C (61°F-64°F)	more than 90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Briza	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	30-90 days	
Browallia	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Buddleja	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	30-90 days	
Bulbine	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	30-90 days	
Bupleurum	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 30 days	
Calamintha	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	Lightly cover seeds
Calandrinia	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	up to 90 days	
Calceolaria	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown
Calendula	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 30 days	Keep moist and dark
Callitropa	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	30-90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Callistemon	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	more than 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown
Calocedrus	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 1 year	Chilling may improve germination
Calochortus	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds Species resents root disturbance - sow directly into suitable container Use well drained compost Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Caltha	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds Keep moist and dark Requires damp conditions
Calycanthus	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 1 year	Cold stratify for 4 weeks Chilling may improve germination
Camassia	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Campanula	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Requires light to germinate
Campsis	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	Sow in Spring Chilling may improve germination
Canna	21°C-24°C (70°F-75°F)	up to 90 days	Pre-soak in cold water; Chip seed Variable germination

Genus	Temperature	Time to Germinate	Notes
Caragana	16°C-18°C (61°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	Pre-soak in hot water Species resents root disturbance - sow directly into suitable container
Cardiocrinum	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	more than 90 days	
Carex	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	30-90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Carpenteria	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	more than 90 days	
Carpinus	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	up to 1 year	Chilling may improve germination. In Autumn sow outside in beds/pots, 1cm deep
Carum	16°C-18°C (61°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	
Caryopteris	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 30 days	
Catananche	10°C-15°C (50°F-59°F)	up to 90 days	Sow in Spring
Cautleya	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	Sow in spring
Ceanothus	16°C-18°C (61°F-64°F)	more than 90 days	Pre-soak in hot water
Cedronella	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Cenolophium	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 1 year	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Requires light to germinate
Centaurea	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 30 days	Sow in Spring
Cephalaria	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	Chilling may improve germination
Cephalotaxus	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 90 days	Chilling may improve germination
Cerastium	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 30 days	
Ceratotheca	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	Lightly cover seeds
Cercidiphyllum	10°C-15°C (50°F-59°F)	up to 90 days	Chilling may improve germination
Cercis	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 30 days	Pre-soak in hot water
Chaenomeles	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 1 year	Cold stratify for 10 weeks
Chaerophyllum	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 30 days	Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Chamaecytisus	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Pre-soak in hot water
Chasmanthium	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 30 days	Best sown in situ or in pots outside in spring
Chelidonium	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 1 year	Leave seeds uncovered when sown
Chenopodium	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	Lightly cover seeds
Chiastophyllum	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 90 days	Cold stratify for 2 weeks Leave seeds uncovered when sown Use well drained compost
Chimonanthus	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	may take more than 1 year	May need two chilling periods to break double dormancy
Chionodoxa	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	more than 90 days	Species resents root disturbance - sow directly into suitable container
Cichorium	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 30 days	Sow in Spring

Genus	Temperature	Time to Germinate	Notes
<i>Cistus</i>	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds
<i>Clematis</i>	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	Cold stratify for 4 weeks Lightly cover seeds May need two chilling periods to break double dormancy Chilling may improve germination
<i>Cleome</i>	18°C-24°C (64°F-75°F)	up to 30 days	Cold stratify for 2 weeks Lightly cover seeds
<i>Clethra</i>	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	30-90 days	Use well drained compost
<i>Clinopodium</i>	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	Requires a period of cold moist stratification
<i>Codonopsis</i>	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown
<i>Colchicum</i>	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 1 year	May need two chilling periods to break double dormancy
<i>Colletia</i>	18°C-20°C (64°F-68°F)	up to 90 days	
<i>Colutea</i>	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Pre-soak in cold water; Chip seed Lightly cover seeds
<i>Commelina</i>	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Lightly cover seeds
<i>Consolida</i>	10°C-15°C (50°F-59°F)	up to 30 days	Sow in Spring
<i>Convallaria</i>	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 1 year	Lightly cover seeds May need two chilling periods to break double dormancy Requires a period of cold moist stratification
<i>Cordyline</i>	20°C-25°C (68°F-77°F)	30-90 days	
<i>Cornus</i>	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 1 year	Requires a period of cold moist stratification
<i>Coronilla</i>	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	more than 90 days	
<i>Corydalis</i>	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 1 year	Cold stratify for 2 weeks Leave seeds uncovered when sown Requires light to germinate
<i>Corylopsis</i>	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 1 year	Chilling may improve germination
<i>Cosmos</i>	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	Lightly cover seeds
<i>Cotinus</i>	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	more than 90 days	Lightly cover seeds Chilling may improve germination
<i>Cotoneaster</i>	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	may take more than 1 year	Warm stratify for 4 weeks; Cold stratify for 4 weeks Variable germination Chilling may improve germination
<i>Crocus</i>	16°C-18°C (61°F-64°F)	more than 90 days	Lightly cover seeds Species resents root disturbance - sow directly into suitable container Sow in Spring

Genus	Temperature	Time to Germinate	Notes
Crocus	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 1 year	Species resents root disturbance - sow directly into suitable container Chilling may improve germination Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Cryptomeria	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	more than 90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Cuphea	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 30 days	Lightly cover seeds
Cupressus	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	more than 90 days	Pre-soak in cold water
Cyclamen	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 1 year	May need two chilling periods to break double dormancy Keep moist and dark Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Cynara	10°C-15°C (50°F-59°F)	30-90 days	
Cynoglossum	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 90 days	Keep moist and dark Annuals may be suitable for sowing outside
Cyperus	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	30-90 days	
Cytisus	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Pre-soak in hot water
Daboecia	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	more than 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown
Dactylisappos	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 1 year	Cold stratify for 6 weeks Lightly cover seeds Chilling may improve germination
Daphne	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	may take more than 1 year	Warm stratify for 4 weeks; Cold stratify for 4 weeks
Darmera	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	Keep moist and dark
Decaisnea	16°C-18°C (61°F-64°F)	more than 90 days	Use well drained compost Sow in Spring Variable germination
Deinantha	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown
Delphinium	10°C-13°C (50°F-55°F)	30-90 days	Lightly cover seeds Keep moist and dark Sow in Spring
Deschampsia	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 30 days	
Deuterocohnia	21°C-27°C (70°F-81°F)	30-90 days	Cold stratify for 4 weeks Leave seeds uncovered when sown
Dianella	12°C-15°C (54°F-59°F)	30-90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Dianthus	16°C-18°C (61°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	Sow in Spring Lightly cover seeds

Genus	Temperature	Time to Germinate	Notes
Dicentra	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 1 year	Cold stratify for 6 weeks Lightly cover seeds Chilling may improve germination
Dictamnus	16°C-18°C (61°F-64°F)	up to 1 year	Chilling may improve germination
Dierama	16°C-18°C (61°F-64°F)	up to 1 year	Lightly cover seeds Requires light to germinate
Digitalis	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	30-90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Requires light to germinate
Dipsacus	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	Sow in early spring in pots cover with 10mm Vermiculite. Best sown in situ
Disporum	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	30-90 days	Species resents root disturbance - sow directly into suitable container
Dodecatheon	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	may take more than 1 year	Cold stratify for 3 weeks Leave seeds uncovered when sown Chilling may improve germination Requires light to germinate
Dodonaea	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	more than 90 days	Sow in Spring Leave seeds uncovered when sown
Doronicum	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 30 days	Requires light to germinate
Draba	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	Species resents root disturbance - sow directly into suitable container Use well drained compost Chilling may improve germination Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Dracunculus	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Sow in Spring Use well drained compost
Dyckia	21°C-27°C (70°F-81°F)	up to 30 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown
Eccremocarpus	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Echinacea	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	30-90 days	Cold stratify for 4 weeks
Emilia	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	Keep moist and dark
Enkianthus	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	30-90 days	Cold stratify for 3 weeks
Eragrostis	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Species resents root disturbance - sow directly into suitable container
Eremurus	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 1 year	Use well drained compost Sow in Spring
Erica	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	more than 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown
Eriogon	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown

Genus	Temperature	Time to Germinate	Notes
Erinus	18°C-24°C (64°F-75°F)	30-90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown
Erodium	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 30 days	
Eryngium	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown
Erysimum	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 30 days	
Erythronium	10°C-15°C (50°F-59°F)	up to 90 days	Chilling may improve germination
Eschscholzia	16°C-18°C (61°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	Annuals may be suitable for sowing outside
Eucalyptus	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	more than 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Eucomis	18°C-24°C (64°F-75°F)	up to 1 year	Variable germination
Euonymus	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	may take more than 1 year	Warm stratify for 4 weeks; Cold stratify for 4 weeks
Eupatorium	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	may take more than 1 year	Lightly cover seeds
Euphorbia	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	up to 90 days	Cold stratify for 1 week Species resents root disturbance - sow directly into suitable container Use well drained compost
Fatsia	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Festuca	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	Sow in Spring in well draining compost
Ficus	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Sow in Spring
Foeniculum	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 30 days	Keep moist and dark
Francoa	10°C-13°C (50°F-55°F)	up to 30 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown
Fraxinus	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	may take more than 1 year	Chilling may improve germination. In Autumn sow outside in beds/pots, 1cm deep
Fritillaria	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 1 year	Cold stratify for 3 weeks Lightly cover seeds
Fuchsia	18°C-24°C (64°F-75°F)	up to 90 days	May need two chilling periods to break double dormancy Chilling may improve germination
Galanthus	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	may take more than 1 year	Sow in Spring Species resents root disturbance - sow directly into suitable container Chilling may improve germination Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Galega	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 90 days	
Galltonia	18°C-24°C (64°F-75°F)	30-90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Gaultheria	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	more than 90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Gaura	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 30 days	Lightly cover seeds Use well drained compost

Genus	Temperature	Time to Germinate	Notes
Genista	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 90 days	Pre-soak in cold water
Gentiana	10°C-13°C (50°F-55°F)	up to 1 year	Lightly cover seeds Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Geranium	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Geum	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Gillenia	15°C-18°C (59°F-64°F)	30-90 days	Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Gladiolus	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	more than 90 days	Species resents root disturbance - sow directly into suitable container
Glaucium	16°C-18°C (61°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds Keep moist and dark
Gloxinia	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Requires light to germinate
Glycyrrhiza	15°C-18°C (59°F-64°F)	30-90 days	Pre-soak in cold water for 1 day Sow in Spring
Gratiola	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Grindelia	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	30-90 days	Sow in Spring
Gunnera	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Gypsophila	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	30-90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Habranthus	16°C-18°C (61°F-64°F)	up to 30 days	
Hamamelis	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	may take more than 1 year	Cold stratify for 4 weeks Chilling may improve germination
Hebe	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Lightly cover seeds Chilling may improve germination
Hechtia	25°C-30°C (77°F-86°F)	up to 90 days	Cover a mix of general purpose compost and perlite with a layer of fine bark. Scatter seed over surface. Use a copper based fungicide eg. Fruit and Veg Disease Control to prevent damping off.
Heimia	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	
Helianthemum	16°C-18°C (61°F-64°F)	30-90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Chilling may improve germination
Helianthus	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 30 days	Annuals may be suitable for sowing outside
Heloniopsis	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 90 days	
Helleborus	16°C-18°C (61°F-64°F)	up to 1 year	Cold stratify for 6 weeks May need two chilling periods to break double dormancy
Hemerocallis	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	more than 90 days	Cold stratify for 6 weeks
Hesperis	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Requires light to germinate

Genus	Temperature	Time to Germinate	Notes
Heuchera	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Requires light to germinate
Hibiscus	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	30-90 days	
Hieracium	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	30-90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Hippobroma	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	
Hippophae	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	30-90 days	Cold stratify for 5 weeks Sow in Spring
Homeria	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	30-90 days	
Horminum	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	more than 90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Hosta	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	more than 90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Hydrangea	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	more than 90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Hyoscyamus	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 30 days	
Hypericum	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Hypoxopus	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	
Iberis	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	Annuals may be suitable for sowing outside
Ilex	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	may take more than 1 year	May need two chilling periods to break double dormancy
Impatiens	21°C-24°C (70°F-75°F)	up to 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Requires light to germinate
Incarvillea	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown
Indigofera	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 90 days	Pre-soak in hot water
Inula	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	
Ipomoea	18°C-24°C (64°F-75°F)	up to 90 days	Pre-soak in cold water; Chip seed Use well drained compost
Iris	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 1 year	Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Isatis	10°C-13°C (50°F-55°F)	up to 90 days	
Isoplexis	18°C-22°C (64°F-72°F)	may take more than 1 year	Use well drained compost
Isotoma	16°C-18°C (61°F-64°F)	30-90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Sow in Spring
Kalanchoe	21°C-24°C (70°F-75°F)	up to 30 days	Requires light to germinate
Kalmia	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown
Kirengeshoma	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 30 days	Keep moist and dark
Kitabela	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	30-90 days	
Knautia	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	30-90 days	
Kniphofia	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	Sow in Spring

Genus	Temperature	Time to Germinate	Notes
Koelerutera	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	
Kolkwitzia	10°C-13°C (50°F-55°F)	30-90 days	Chilling may improve germination
Laburnum	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	more than 90 days	Pre-soak in hot water
Larix	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	more than 90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Lathyrus	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	30-90 days	Pre-soak in cold water; Chip seed
Lavandula	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	Cold stratify for 4 weeks Lightly cover seeds
Lavatera	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Leonurus	10°C-13°C (50°F-55°F)	up to 30 days	
Lepechinia	18°C-24°C (64°F-75°F)	up to 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Use well drained compost
Leptospermum	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	Lightly cover seeds
Leucantherum	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	Sow in Spring, lightly cover with vermiculite
Leucoujum	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 30 days	Species resents root disturbance - sow directly into suitable container
Leucothoe	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	30-90 days	
Levisticum	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	30-90 days	
Leycesteria	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	more than 90 days	Cold stratify for 4 weeks Lightly cover seeds Chilling may improve germination
Liatrix	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	30-90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Libertia	10°C-13°C (50°F-55°F)	may take more than 1 year	Species resents root disturbance - sow directly into suitable container Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Lilium	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	may take more than 1 year	Warm stratify for 4 weeks; Cold stratify for 12 weeks; Pre-soak in cold water
Linaria	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	30-90 days	Cold stratify for 3 weeks Lightly cover seeds Requires light to germinate
Linum	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Liriodendron	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	more than 90 days	Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Lobelia	18°C-24°C (64°F-75°F)	up to 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Use well drained compost Requires light to germinate
Lonicera	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	more than 90 days	Cold stratify for 4 weeks Chilling may improve germination
Lophospermum	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 90 days	

Genus	Temperature	Time to Germinate	Notes
Lotus	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	Lightly cover seeds Keep moist and dark
Lunaria	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	Lightly cover seeds
Lupinus	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	Pre-soak in cold water; Chip seed
Luzula	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Sow in Spring
Lychnis	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Cold stratify for 2 weeks Leave seeds uncovered when sown
Lythium	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	30-90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Lysimachia	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown
Lythrum	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	
Mahonia	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 1 year	
Matanthemum	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 1 year	Lightly cover seeds Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Malope	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 30 days	
Malus	10°C-15°C (50°F-59°F)	up to 1 year	Cold stratify for 12 weeks Sow in Spring
Malva	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Marrubium	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	
Matthiola	13°C-21°C (55°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	
Maurandya	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	Lightly cover seeds
Meconopsis	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Chilling may improve germination Requires damp conditions Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Melica	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Lightly cover seeds
Melissa	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Requires light to germinate
Metasequoia	10°C-20°C (50°F-68°F)	may take more than 1 year	Cold stratify at 4°C for 6 weeks before sowing
Meum	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 90 days	Use well drained compost Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Mimulus	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	up to 90 days	Cold stratify for 3 weeks Leave seeds uncovered when sown Requires light to germinate

Genus	Temperature	Time to Germinate	Notes
Mirabilis	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Requires light to germinate
Mitella	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 30 days	Lightly cover seeds Keep moist and dark
Molinia	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 30 days	Sow in Spring
Monarda	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	Lightly cover seeds
Moraea	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	Species resents root disturbance - sow directly into suitable container
Musa	21°C-27°C (70°F-81°F)	up to 1 year	Pre-soak in hot water Requires light to germinate
Muscari	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 1 year	Pre-soak in cold water Lightly cover seeds Species resents root disturbance - sow directly into suitable container Use well drained compost
Myrrhis	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Myrtus	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 90 days	Warm stratify for 12 weeks Cold stratify for 12 weeks
Nandina	21°C-24°C (70°F-75°F)	30-90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Narcissus	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	may take more than 1 year	Lightly cover seeds Species resents root disturbance - sow directly into suitable container Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Nectaroscordum	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 1 year	Cold stratify for 4 weeks Leave seeds uncovered when sown Keep moist and dark
Nepeta	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Nicandra	16°C-24°C (61°F-75°F)	30-90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Nicotiana	21°C-24°C (70°F-75°F)	up to 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Requires light to germinate
Nigella	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds Annuals may be suitable for sowing outside
Nothofagus	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 90 days	Cold stratify for 6 weeks
Oenothera	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Lightly cover seeds Keep moist and dark
Ononis	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	30-90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown
Onopordium	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	30-90 days	Species resents root disturbance - sow directly into suitable container
Origanum	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 30 days	Lightly cover seeds

Genus	Temperature	Time to Germinate	Notes
Orlaya	10°C-13°C (50°F-55°F)	30-90 days	
Ornithogalum	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	more than 90 days	Lightly cover seeds Species resents root disturbance - sow directly into suitable container Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Orthrosanthus	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 30 days	Sow in Spring
Oryzopsis	15°C-18°C (59°F-64°F)	up to 30 days	Lightly cover seeds
Osteospermum	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds Use well drained compost
Ostrya	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	more than 90 days	Chilling may improve germination Sow in Spring
Ourisia	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Use well drained compost
Oxypetalum	21°C-27°C (70°F-81°F)	up to 90 days	
Paeonia	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	may take more than 1 year	
Papaver	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown
Paracaryum	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	Lightly cover seeds Sow in Spring
Paradisea	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 1 year	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Parahaebe	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown
Paspalum	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	30-90 days	
Paulownia	16°C-18°C (61°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Requires light to germinate
Peltoboykinia	16°C-18°C (61°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Pennisetum	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	Sow in Spring in well draining compost
Penstemon	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Requires light to germinate
Persicaria	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 30 days	Lightly cover seeds
Petrothagia	10°C-13°C (50°F-55°F)	up to 90 days	Use well drained compost Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Petroselinum	16°C-18°C (61°F-64°F)	up to 30 days	Sow in early Spring, cover with 10mm Vermiculite
Peucedanum	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	Sow in early Spring, cover lightly with 2mm Vermiculite
Phacelia	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 30 days	Annuals may be suitable for sowing outside Keep moist and dark

Genus	Temperature	Time to Germinate	Notes
Phladelphus	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	30-90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown
Phlomis	16°C-18°C (61°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Phormium	16°C-18°C (61°F-64°F)	up to 1 year	Lightly cover seeds Use well drained compost
Photinia	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 1 year	Cold stratify for 8 weeks Chilling may improve germination
Phuopsis	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Requires light to germinate
Phygellus	21°C-24°C (70°F-75°F)	up to 30 days	Lightly cover seeds
Physocarpus	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 30 days	
Physostegia	15°C-18°C (59°F-64°F)	30-90 days	Sow in Spring
Phyteuma	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	more than 90 days	Lightly cover seeds Use well drained compost
Picea	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	more than 90 days	Lightly cover seeds Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Pieris	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Pinus	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	more than 90 days	Species resents root disturbance - sow directly into suitable container
Platycodon	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Requires light to germinate
Plectranthus	18°C-24°C (64°F-75°F)	30-90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Polemonium	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Polygonatum	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 1 year	Lightly cover seeds Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Potentilla	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Primula	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Prunella	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Pterocarya	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 90 days	Cold stratify for 5 weeks
Pterostyrax	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	may take more than 1 year	Cold stratify
Ptilostemon	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	
Pulsatilla	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 1 year	Lightly cover seeds Requires a period of cold moist stratification

Genus	Temperature	Time to Germinate	Notes
Punica	20°C-30°C (68°F-86°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds Use well drained compost Keep moist and dark Sow in Spring
Puya	21°C-27°C (70°F-81°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Ranunculus	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds Requires damp conditions Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Rehmannia	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	30-90 days	
Reseda	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Requires light to germinate
Rheum	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 90 days	
Rhodiola	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	30-90 days	Requires a period of cold moist stratification Leave seeds uncovered when sown
Rhodochiton	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 90 days	Use well drained compost Chilling may improve germination Sow in Spring
Rhododendron	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	more than 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown
Rhodotypos	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 1 year	Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Rodgersia	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	more than 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Chilling may improve germination Requires damp conditions Requires light to germinate Sow in Spring
Rosa	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 1 year	Warm stratify for 12 weeks; Cold stratify for 12 weeks Chilling may improve germination Variable germination
Roscoea	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 1 year	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Requires light to germinate Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Rosmarinus	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	
Rudbeckia	16°C-18°C (61°F-64°F)	up to 30 days	
Rumex	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	
Ruscus	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	more than 90 days	Chilling may improve germination
Sabal	25°C-30°C (77°F-86°F)	more than 90 days	Presoak in hot water Use well drained compost

Genus	Temperature	Time to Germinate	Notes
Salvia	18°C-24°C (64°F-75°F)	up to 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Use well drained compost
Sambucus	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	may take more than 1 year	Cold stratify for 12 weeks
Sandersonia	20°C-25°C (68°F-77°F)	30-90 days	Chilling may improve germination
Sanguisorba	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 30 days	Cold stratify for 3 weeks
Saponaria	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Requires light to germinate
Sarcococca	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Sow in Spring
Saruma	18°C-24°C (64°F-75°F)	up to 30 days	Lightly cover seeds
Saxifraga	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 90 days	Use well drained compost Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Scabiosa	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Schizanthus	15°C-18°C (59°F-64°F)	up to 30 days	Lightly cover seeds
Schizostylis	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Scilla	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 1 year	Species resents root disturbance - sow directly into suitable container
Scutellaria	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Sedum	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Sempervivum	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown
Setaria	16°C-18°C (61°F-64°F)	up to 30 days	Sow in early spring in the greenhouse, lightly cover with vermiculite
Sideritis	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	Lightly cover seeds
Silene	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	Lightly cover seeds
Silybum	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 30 days	Lightly cover seeds
Sisyrinchium	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 1 year	Species resents root disturbance - sow directly into suitable container
Skimmia	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 1 year	Keep moist and dark Sow in Spring
Smyrniolum	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	30-90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Solanum	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Sollya	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Use well drained compost
Sophora	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Pre-soak in hot water; Chip seed

Genus	Temperature	Time to Germinate	Notes
Sorbus	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	more than 90 days	Warm stratify for 4 weeks; Cold stratify for 12 weeks Chilling may improve germination
Sporobolus	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 30 days	
Stachys	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Staphylea	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 1 year	Cold stratify for 6 weeks Chilling may improve germination
Stewartia	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 1 year	Warm stratify for 12 weeks; Cold stratify for 12 weeks
Stipa	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Use well drained compost
Streptocarpus	21°C-24°C (70°F-75°F)	up to 30 days	Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Strobilanthes	16°C-18°C (61°F-64°F)	30-90 days	
Stylophorum	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	30-90 days	
Styrax	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	up to 1 year	Sow in Spring
Sutherlandia	15°C-20°C (59°F-68°F)	30-90 days	Pre-soak in cold water
Talinum	16°C-18°C (61°F-64°F)	30-90 days	Sow in Spring
Tanacetum	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 30 days	Use well drained compost
Tellima	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	more than 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Tetradium	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	up to 1 year	Lightly cover seeds
Teucrium	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	30-90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Thalictrum	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Thermopsis	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 90 days	Pre-soak in cold water; Chip seed Lightly cover seeds
Tiarella	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Tigridia	21°C-27°C (70°F-81°F)	up to 1 year	Species resents root disturbance - sow directly into suitable container
Tithonia	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown
Trachycarpus	25°C-28°C (77°F-82°F)	30-90 days	Pre-soak in hot water; Chip seed Requires damp conditions
Tricyrtis	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	more than 90 days	Keep moist and dark
Trifolium	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	30-90 days	Use well drained compost
Trillium	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	may take more than 1 year	Keep moist and dark Requires a period of cold moist stratification
Triteleia	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 1 year	Use well drained compost
Trochodendron	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	more than 90 days	Cold stratify for 3 weeks
Tsuga	10°C-20°C (50°F-68°F)	may take more than 1 year	Cold stratify at 4°C for 6 weeks before sowing

Genus	Temperature	Time to Germinate	Notes
Tulbaghia	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	30-90 days	
Tulipa	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	more than 90 days	Use well drained compost
Tweedia	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	up to 30 days	Use well drained compost
Vaccinium	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	more than 90 days	Cold stratify for 5 weeks Leave seeds uncovered when sown
Veratrum	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	up to 30 days	Species resents root disturbance - sow directly into suitable container Chilling may improve germination
Verbascum	13°C-16°C (55°F-61°F)	30-90 days	Lightly cover seeds
Verbena	18°C-24°C (64°F-75°F)	up to 90 days	Cold stratify for 2 weeks Lightly cover seeds Keep moist and dark
Veronica	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown
Veronicastrum	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 90 days	Requires light to germinate
Vestia	21°C-27°C (70°F-81°F)	30-90 days	Leave seeds uncovered when sown
Viburnum	18°C-21°C (64°F-70°F)	may take more than 1 year	Requires light to germinate
Vincetoxicum	18°C-24°C (64°F-75°F)	up to 90 days	Warm stratify for 4 weeks; Cold stratify for 4 weeks Chilling may improve germination
Viola	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 90 days	Lightly cover seeds Use well drained compost
Wahlenbergia	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	30-90 days	Cold stratify for 2 weeks Lightly cover seeds Keep moist and dark
Watsonia	13°C-18°C (55°F-64°F)	up to 30 days	Species resents root disturbance - sow directly into suitable container Use well drained compost
Wulfenia	10°C-16°C (50°F-61°F)	may take more than 1 year	Species resents root disturbance - sow directly into suitable container
Ypsilandra	16°C-21°C (61°F-70°F)	up to 90 days	Sow on surface of well drained compost. May require cold stratifying for up to 12 weeks at 3°C
Zinnia	18°C-24°C (64°F-75°F)	up to 90 days	Species resents root disturbance - sow directly into suitable container Lightly cover seeds. Sow individually in pots or in situ



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