



RAINBOW  
GARDENS®

# Pumpkin Planting Tips

## 01 Plant at the right time

Pumpkin planting time in San Antonio is in the summer! Generally in late June to mid July.



## 02 Choose the Right Pumpkin

Some varieties mature in 85 days others may take around 120 days. Choose according to when you want to harvest. Small to medium varieties do best in our area.



## 03 Give Pumpkins Space

5-6 seeds should be planted in clusters, with the clusters spaced 4'-8' apart in the row. Rows should be 8'-10' apart. Thin to 2-3 plants per cluster once the the transplants are growing well.



## 04 Soil

Pumpkins need well-draining soil. The addition of peat moss, and organic compost can help amend poorly draining soil.

## 05 Watering

Pumpkins require plenty of water, especially through summer establishment and when the fruit is developing/maturing. Feel soil 2" deep and water deeply and thoroughly if dry.

## 06 Fertilization

Offer a high nitrogen fertilizer 2 weeks after seed germination, and then every month through harvest. Follow rate on fertilizer bag, but usually 1-2 lbs. per 100 sq. ft. of bed.

## 07 Pests & Disease

- Watch for squash bugs/borers. Prevent by:
- wrapping base of stems with stretch gauze.
  - diligently checking under leaves for egg masses. Wipe and crush with thumb.
  - propping up a shingle where adults will hide under during hot sunny days. Remove shingle and step on shingle/killing bugs.
- Watch for Powdery Mildew.  
Prevent by:
- avoiding watering foliage
  - apply copper fungicide if needed

