

Snow Peas

Pisum sativum var. *saccharatum* · Legume family

DIFFICULTY Easy
TYPE Annual, direct sown, cool season
MATURITY 60–70 days



SUN
Full–part sun



WATER
Regular



SOIL PH
6.0–7.5



SPACING
5–8cm × 45cm



DEPTH
2–3cm

01 Nitrogen fixers

Grown and cared for just like shelling peas, but picked earlier — while the pod is still flat, before the peas inside swell.



nitrogen-fixing nodules along the roots

may need a stake or trellis

02 Planting

METHOD	Direct sow along a trellis or netting.
SOIL	Well-drained, moderately fertile.
TIMING	Sow in the cooler months.

Planting timing varies significantly by Australian climate zone. Set your zone above (or use the Find My Climate Zone tool) for guidance tailored to your own area.

03 Growing care

- Provide support at planting.
- Water regularly, especially through flowering.
- Pick often and early — flat pods, before peas swell inside.
- Leave roots in place after harvest for the nitrogen benefit.

04 Problems

- **Powdery mildew** — humid weather; improve airflow.
- **Pea weevil** — mostly cosmetic leaf notching.
- **Poor pod set** — heat stress; grow in the cooler part of the year.
- **Birds** — net young seedlings.

05 Harvest & storage

SIGNS	Pods are flat, before peas inside swell noticeably.
METHOD	Pick with two hands to avoid tearing the vine.
CURING	None needed.
STORAGE	Fridge a few days; best used promptly.
PRESERVING	See Freezing Produce (blanch and freeze a glut) or Canning & Bottling (pickled beans) for ways to keep a harvest surplus.

06 Companions & rotation

PLANT NEARBY	AVOID NEARBY	ROTATION NOTE
Carrot Cucumber Corn	Onion Garlic	Follow with heavy feeders to use the fixed nitrogen.