

Sugar Snap Peas

Pisum sativum var. *macrocarpon* · 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 or snow peas, but picked later — once the pod has filled out and turned plump and rounded.



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 — pods are ready once plump and rounded, before they toughen.
- 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 plump and rounded, peas fully formed but still sweet and crisp.

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

Carrot

Cucumber

Corn

AVOID NEARBY

Onion

Garlic

ROTATION NOTE

Follow with heavy feeders to use the fixed nitrogen.