

Sage

Salvia officinalis · Mint family

DIFFICULTY Easy

TYPE Evergreen perennial shrub

MATURITY Usable from 8–10 weeks



SUN
Full sun



WATER
Low–moderate



SOIL PH
6.0–7.0



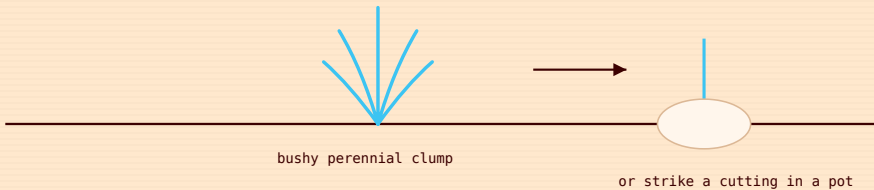
SPACING
45–60cm



DEPTH
as per pot

01 Prune to prevent woodiness

Sage bushes get woody and sparse in the centre without regular trimming — cut back by a third after flowering each year to keep it productive for longer.



02 Planting

METHOD	Plant from a nursery pot, or strike cuttings.
SOIL	Free-draining, moderately fertile.
TIMING	Plant in spring or autumn.

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

- Water moderately — sage dislikes constantly wet soil.
- Prune hard after flowering to prevent woodiness.
- Mulch lightly, kept clear of the base.
- Replace plants every 4–5 years once they get very woody.

04 Problems

- **Root rot** — from poor drainage; ensure it's not sitting wet.
- **Powdery mildew** — humid, crowded conditions; space well.
- **Woody, sparse growth** — lack of pruning; trim annually.
- **Spider mite** — hot, dry weather; occasional hose down.

05 Harvest & storage

SIGNS	Usable year-round once established.
METHOD	Snip leaves or sprigs as needed.
CURING	Air-dry hanging in small bunches.
STORAGE	Fresh in the fridge 1–2 weeks; dried, airtight for a year or more.
PRESERVING	See Dehydrating (drying woody herbs for storage) for ways to keep a harvest surplus.

06 Companions & rotation

PLANT NEARBY	AVOID NEARBY	ROTATION NOTE
Cabbage Carrot Strawberry	Cucumber	Not applicable — long-lived shrub.