

# The Ultimate Guide to Storing Fruit, Vegetable, and Flower Seeds

Seeds are the lifeblood of any garden. They contain the genetic material that will give rise to new plants, and they are essential for the propagation of both food and ornamental crops. However, seeds are also perishable, and if they are not stored properly, they can quickly lose their viability. This article will provide you with all the information you need to know about storing fruit, vegetable, and flower seeds so that they remain viable and productive for years to come.



## HOW TO STORE FRUIT, VEGETABLE OR FLOWER SEEDS: And Maintain Their Viability by Brock M Hunter

★★★★☆ 4 out of 5

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## Choosing the Right Containers

The first step in storing seeds is to choose the right containers. Seeds should be stored in airtight containers that will protect them from moisture, light, and pests. Glass jars with tight-fitting lids are a good option, as are plastic containers with snap-on lids. Avoid using paper or cardboard

containers, as these materials can absorb moisture and allow pests to enter.

## **Controlling Temperature and Humidity**

Seeds should be stored in a cool, dark place with low humidity. The ideal temperature for seed storage is between 40 and 50 degrees Fahrenheit. If you do not have a refrigerator, you can store seeds in a basement or other cool, dark location. It is important to avoid storing seeds in areas that are too warm or too humid, as these conditions can cause seeds to deteriorate quickly.

## **Protecting Seeds from Pests and Diseases**

Seeds can be damaged by a variety of pests and diseases. To protect seeds from these threats, it is important to keep them clean and dry. Store seeds in airtight containers and avoid exposing them to moisture. You can also add a small amount of silica gel to the containers to help absorb moisture. If you notice any pests or diseases on your seeds, discard them immediately.

## **Testing Seed Viability**

Before planting seeds, it is important to test their viability. This can be done by placing a few seeds in a damp paper towel and keeping them in a warm place for a few days. If the seeds germinate, they are viable and can be planted. If they do not germinate, they are not viable and should be discarded.

## **Storing Fruit Seeds**

Fruit seeds can be stored for up to five years. To store fruit seeds, clean the seeds and remove any pulp or debris. Place the seeds in an airtight container and store them in a cool, dark place. Some common fruit seeds that can be stored include:

- Apple seeds
- Pear seeds
- Peach seeds
- Apricot seeds
- Cherry seeds

### **Storing Vegetable Seeds**

Vegetable seeds can be stored for up to three years. To store vegetable seeds, clean the seeds and remove any debris. Place the seeds in an airtight container and store them in a cool, dark place. Some common vegetable seeds that can be stored include:

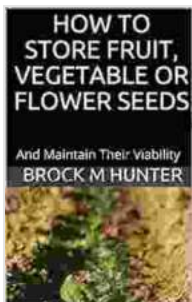
- Tomato seeds
- Pepper seeds
- Cucumber seeds
- Zucchini seeds
- Bean seeds

### **Storing Flower Seeds**

Flower seeds can be stored for up to two years. To store flower seeds, clean the seeds and remove any debris. Place the seeds in an airtight container and store them in a cool, dark place. Some common flower seeds that can be stored include:

- Marigold seeds
- Zinnia seeds
- Cosmos seeds
- Sunflower seeds
- Daisy seeds

By following these tips, you can ensure that your fruit, vegetable, and flower seeds remain viable and productive for years to come. With proper storage, you can save money on seeds and have a ready supply of plants for your garden.



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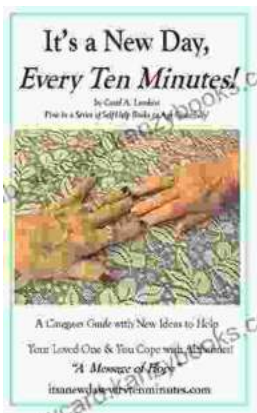
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