

## Tips for Success

**Kitchen Mini's Veggies:** If you've ever wanted to grow your own homegrown veggies but didn't have the outdoor space for them, well this is the solution. The Kitchen Mini Series has been created specifically for gardeners to grow indoors in a bright windowsill or on an outdoor patio table top. These easy to grow plants will bring pure delight and incredible flavor inside the home as they begin fruiting in about 40-60 days. Includes Quick Snack Cucumber, Red Velvet Cherry Tomato and Fresh Bites Yellow Pepper.

**Plants look Dry or Foliage appears Lackluster:** Sometimes plants may appear dried out and wilted after the voyage. Do not despair. When this happens the foliage may look lackluster but the rootstock is still perfectly healthy and alive. To plump your plants back up, water them and wait 5 minutes and then water them again. This will generally rehydrate them. Keep these plants well-watered until you can re-plant them into larger containers or in the garden within the next week. If plants arrive dry, it is often because the roots have outgrown the small shipping pots and need more room to grow; roots tend to dry out quickly in small containers. Your plants are very much alive and when you transplant them into larger pots or the earth, they will start growing quickly! So, re-plant them as soon as possible. Remove any yellow or brown foliage.

**Time to Plant!** Water your plants immediately after taking them out of the box. Give them enough water so that the soil appears damp and water trickles out the bottom of the pot. Your plants are now ready to be replanted. Follow the planting guide inside for detailed instructions on how to most effectively plant your new plants.

**When to Harvest:** Under correct conditions, you will start to harvest your Tomatoes in about 60 days, Cucumbers in about 50 days, and Peppers in about 45 days. Make sure you give these plants lots of sunshine, regular deep watering, and fertilizer every other week.

**Position Guide:** A - Cucumber Mini Quick Snack, B - Cherry Red Velvet, C - Bright Yellow Pepper



# Girl Next Door by Carolyn

## PLANTING AND GROWING GUIDE



### Kitchen Mini's™ Veggies

*Solanum lycopersicum, Capsicum anuum, Cucumis sativum*

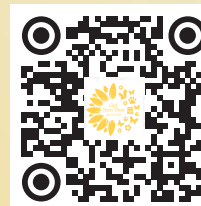
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*Annual and Tropical Plants*

## Quick Reference

 **Plant Type:** Annual

 **Light/Sun:** Full Sun

 **Mature Height:**

Red Velvet Cherry Tomato: 8"

Fresh Bites Yellow Pepper: 12"

Quick Snack Cucumber: 24"

 **Mature Spread:**

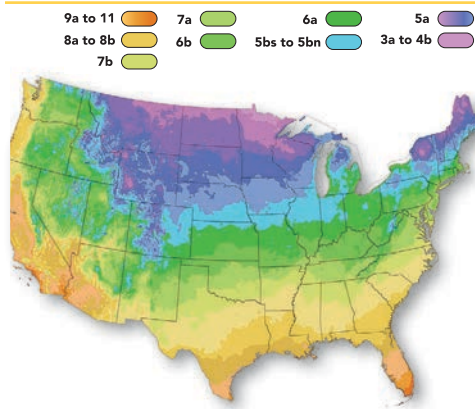
Red Velvet Cherry Tomato: 8"

Fresh Bites Yellow Pepper: 10"

Quick Snack Cucumber: 20"

 **Bloom Time:** End of Summer

 **USDA Hardiness Zones:** 9 to 11



## Plant Caretaking

**Upon Arrival:** Please take plants out of the box immediately and remove any shipping materials from around the plants. Give them some water and place them in a warm sunny area for 1-2 days before replanting.

**Planting Depth & Spacing:** Dig a deep enough hole so that the entire plant easily fits into the hole and the top of the soil line of your plant is flush with the top of the soil in the hole you have dug. It is important that the soil line of your plant does not protrude above the soil line in the ground or container. Space plants about the mature spread of the plant as shown in the Quick Reference section.

**Potted Plants:** Make sure your container has holes to allow excess water to drain. Repot into 8-12" containers. Or you may plant multiple together in larger containers.

**Soil Preparation:** If your soil is clayish, amend it with standard potting mix to improve drainage. They like bagged potting mixes for houseplants that will drain well. Most garden centers carry various brand names with perlite, vermiculite, soil and sand.

**Watering:** To determine if your plant needs water, put your finger in the top of the soil and if the top inch is dry, it is time to water. It is important to make sure young plants do not experience long periods of dryness. However, they also do not like soggy conditions. They need regular deep watering all season to produce the most bountiful harvest.

**Fertilizer:** Use a well balanced fertilizer a couple weeks after planting and then once or twice a month all summer long.

**Pet Considerations:** Ensure your pets do not consume plants.

**Winter Care:** These are annuals that will only last one season. However, if some of your tomatoes have been allowed to fall away, they may re-seed themselves the following year. This happens more often in warm winter areas.

**Cages, Trellises & Support:** You may need to add some support to your veggies if you notice they are slightly leaning to one side. The time to add support is about a month after planting.

## Planting Steps

**Step 1** Remove plants from their box and take off other packing materials. Open your box outside or somewhere you don't mind getting messy, as some of the soil may have been shaken loose in transit.

**Step 2** Check if your plant is thirsty. They probably need a nice drink of water after their voyage. If the plant feels light or the soil is dry to the touch, give your plants a watering.

**Step 3** Allow your plants time to adjust to their new home before re-planting by placing them in a warm sunny spot for 1-2 days. Then they will be ready for re-planting with renewed vigor.

**Step 4** Pull away or cut off any yellow or brown leaves, or any old flowers – this is normal.

**Step 5** Transplant into the garden or containers as soon as evening temperatures stay above 40F. Dig holes the width of the root ball and deep enough so that the original top of the soil is flush with the new soil line. Water the new location before and after planting your plant. This will help the young roots stay hydrated. Once you've placed your plant in the hole, fill in the rest of the hole with extra soil or potting mix, ensuring the entire root system is covered with soil.

