
MORE TOMATO INFORMATION

You will notice that on our signs and tags we have organized our tomato varieties into three main sections: **early season**, **mid season**, and **late season**. We also note the **days to maturity**.

Days to maturity is the average time it takes from transplanting a seedling to fruit production. Do not take these numbers literally as weather, soil conditions, etc. can affect this. Rather, use these numbers to compare one variety to another in terms of when you can expect to begin harvesting.

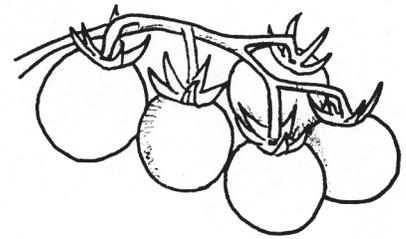
Early season — Varieties with short days to maturity and cold tolerance. These are good to plant early in the spring and also late in the season to ensure a crop if the cold fall weather arrives early.

Mid season — These still have pretty short days to maturity so will produce well in almost all of the Bay Area's micro climates. For really foggy and cooler areas, cherry varieties are a pretty sure bet as they don't need the heat a full size tomato does to ripen.

Late season — These varieties have long days to maturity and need some heat to ripen. We have had good luck with the ones we offer here in Oakland and Berkeley where we can continue to harvest way into the fall.

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We suggest that those who want to have tomatoes all warm season long select a mix of early, mid and late season varieties.



Determinate

Also known as 'bush' varieties, these plants are better for container growing or small gardens. They reach a certain predetermined height and then stop growing. Most of the fruit is borne over a 4 to 6 week period. Many paste varieties fall into this category.

Indeterminate

Truly a vine, these plants continue to grow and produce fruit until the cold weather kills them. Generally they need some kind of support. We have grown them in large containers but they really prefer to be in the ground.

TOMATO RESTRAINTS

Although at transplanting your indeterminate tomato plants look very innocent and unassuming, by the time they are producing crops of delicious fruits they may have matured into something much more vigorous and potentially garden gobbling! The key is to prepare to tame them while they're still small. Buy large tomato cages and anchor them by attaching them to a sturdy stake pounded into the ground.

Another inexpensive idea is to buy a length of concrete reinforcing mesh (this has holes that are about 4" square.) Wire ends together to create a tube. Attach this to a sturdy stake that's pounded into the ground to ensure the vine won't pull it over. Place over the young plant. At the end of the season you can clip the wires and store the mesh flat.

KASSENHOFF GROWERS is a certified organic wholesale nursery based in Oakland. We are committed to growing high quality organic plants that will thrive when planted in your garden. We are very excited to be offering all these tomato varieties and hope that you'll be adventurous and try something new this year.

We offer hardy plants that are locally grown out of doors, not in greenhouses; organically grown plants acclimated to this area; and, varieties carefully selected to flourish in our local micro-climates.

We do not use any genetically modified seed (GMOs), chemical fertilizers or pesticides.

www.kassenhoffgrowers.com

