

Plant sheet



Pumpkin (*Cucurbita pepo et al*)

You need a bit of space to grow pumpkins. They can be grown on a trellis too, like a cucumber, if you are challenged for space. However you grow them, make sure you grow them in the richest soil with the most compost and well-rotted manure you can throw at them.

Plant the seed out in the ground or in their grow pot as soon as you can feel confident the weather is warm enough, usually around November in Melbourne if you are sowing outside.

If the conditions are right, pumpkins will keep growing until the whole apartment block has been covered in their handsome leaves and tendrils. When they have filled the space allotted to them, you can nip off the end of each vine so that all the energy goes into producing fruit rather than rampant growth.

Once the fruit are ready for harvest in Autumn, pick them with its stalk intact. Leave in a dry sunny spot for a week or too to help the skin to harden. You can then store the pumpkin on its side in a cool, dry place.



Height: .45 metre
Spread: 4-5 metres
Soil: Well-drained loam or sand
pH: Acid, neutral
Sunlight: Full sun