

Celebrate the year of the Marigold

Plant these easy to grow garden stalwarts for zingy coloured flowers all through the summer. One of the easiest garden annuals to grow, Marigolds are not just vibrant bedding plants they are an excellent choice for pots and patio gardening too.

SUN WORSHIPERS

- Marigolds are part of the daisy family and originate from north, central and south America where they thrive in full sun. They are best planted into rich, well-drained soil in a sunny spot in your garden.
- Marigolds come in a fantastic array of flower shapes, colours and plant forms and are ideal for adding zingy citrus tones to your pots and containers.
- There are a rich variety of plant types from the large flowered African Marigolds (*Tagetes erecta*) to the smaller French Marigolds (*Tagetes patula*) and including the wild-origin type, single flowered signet Marigold (*Tagetes tenuifolia*). They are all prolific flowerers.

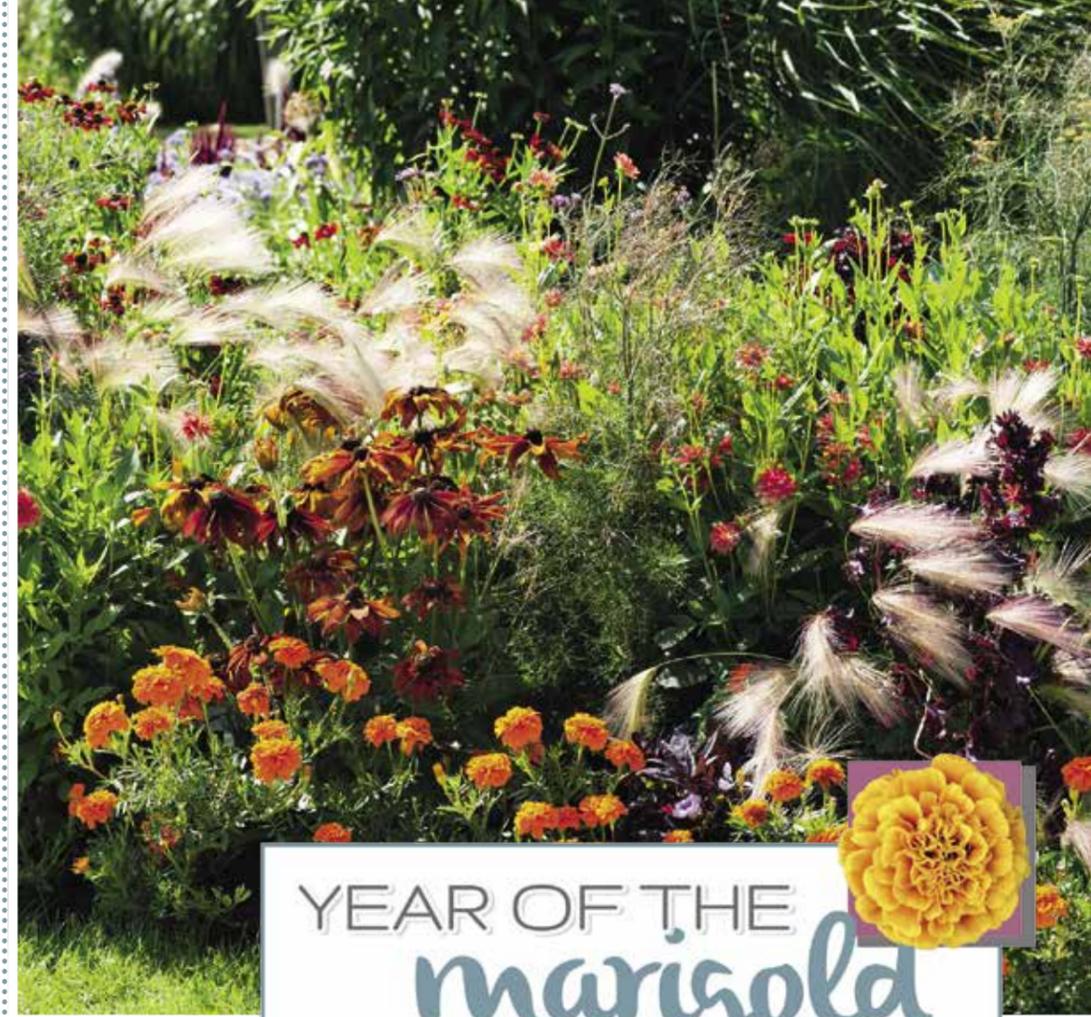
- Choose to grow Marigolds for their reliable production of flowers from late spring into autumn.
- Marigold flowers are bright and beautiful adding glowing shades of yellow, burnt orange and rustic reds to your pots, beds and border.
- Grow single, open flowered marigolds to attract butterflies and bees that will feed on the pollen and nectar.
- One of the great things about these plants and flowers is that they put on a fabulous, fiery display right through into late summer and early autumn when many other garden plants are starting to fade away.
- Plant low growing French Marigolds at the front of the border for a river of colour around the lines of your garden.

- Grow compact French Marigolds in hanging baskets for a sunny, bright and colourful display at the front door.
- Plant taller African Marigolds in the middle or towards the back of a display to add height, interest and depth to your display.
- For a low maintenance container, plant one or three signet Marigolds into the pot in late spring and allow them to fill the space.
- Marry Marigolds with rustic woven baskets for a natural look that will suit a modern or traditional home.
- Some Marigold foliage can be deeply fragrant, musky or verging on pungent and are a good deterrent for greenhouse whitefly. Plant them with your tomatoes and other greenhouse crops to deter other pests.



Step by Step

1. Sow them thinly into small pots of seed compost from March in a light, frost-free place such as a windowsill or porch.
2. Prick out seedlings singly into small pots or modules filled multi-purpose compost and allow the roots to fill the pot.
3. Plant out into their flowering position when all risk of frost has passed.
4. Feed with a high potash feed for flowering plants.
5. Deadhead regularly to keep the plants flowering.



FROM SEED

Marigolds are mostly annuals that grow, flower and set seed in the same season and are really, really easy to grow from seed. Seedlings quickly develop into strong, sturdy plants with masses of vibrant orange, red and yellow flowers.

- Ready to grow plants are widely available at garden centres after the last frost of spring.
- If you are new to growing plants from seed, or a little nervous, you may prefer to buy ready grown plants from the nursery or garden centre.
- For great value grow Marigolds from seed. One packet will provide dozens of healthy plants with rich green foliage and bright, fiery coloured flowers.
- Spread the love and share your excess plants with friends and neighbours.



MANY VARIETIES

BEAUTIFUL COLORS