

Specific Guidelines by Seed Type for Home Germination Tests**KEY**

warm = 67-86°F...kitchen?

cool = 68°F...basement?

B = between coffee filters

T = on top of coffee filters

N/A = big seed does not go on coffee filters so this info does not apply

How to Interpret this Guide: Examples

Beans need to be tested in a **warm** environment. We suggest setting up your test in a spot in the kitchen where it won't be disturbed. You can expect to begin seeing seeds germinate after they have sat for **3 days**, but continue checking on them until **8 days** after you began the test. By then, all the seeds that will germinate will have done so (waiting longer will often lead to rotting seeds).

Chamomile needs to be tested in a **cool** environment. If you have a basement, we suggest setting up your test there in a spot where it won't be disturbed. When setting up your test, place your seeds **on top** of the coffee filters. You can expect to begin seeing seeds germinate after they have sat for **3 days**, but continue checking on them until **14 days** after you began the test. By then, all the seeds that will germinate will have done so (waiting longer will often lead to rotting seeds).

Tomatoes need to be tested in a **warm** environment. We suggest setting up your test in a spot in the kitchen where it won't be disturbed. When setting up your test, place your seeds **between** the two coffee filters. You can expect to begin seeing seeds germinate after they have sat for **5 days**, but continue checking on them until **14 days** after you began the test. By then, all the seeds that will germinate will have done so (waiting longer will often lead to rotting seeds).

Plant	Temperature	# of Days	Seed Placement	Special Instructions
Basil	warm	2-14	B	
Bean	warm	3-8	N/A	Beans love moisture! Make sure that brown bag remains wet throughout test by spraying when it begins to dry.
Chamomile	cool	3-14	T	
Chives	cool	6-14	B	
Corn	warm	4-7	N/A	
Cosmos	warm	3-8	T	
Cucumber	warm	3-7	N/A	Cucumber seeds do not like excessive moisture. Do not spray the brown bag during the test unless it is very dry.
Dill	warm	7-21	B	
Echinaceae	warm	2-12	T	
Eggplant	warm	7-14	T	
Kale	warm	3-10	B	
Larkspur	cool	10-21	T	Larkspur especially does not like warm temperatures.
Lemon Balm	warm	6-21	T	
Lettuce	cool	2-7	T	
Marigold	warm	2-7	T	
Melon	warm	4-10	N/A	Melon seeds do not like excessive moisture. Do not spray the brown bag during the test unless it is very dry.

Morning Glory	cool	5-14	B	Soak seeds in water for 24 hours prior to beginning germination test.
Nasturtium	cool	2-14	N/A	
Okra	warm	4-14	B	Soak seeds in water for 24 hours prior to beginning germination test.
Onion	cool	6-10	B	
Parsley	warm	11-28	B	
Peas	cool	5-8	N/A	Peas love moisture! Make sure that brown bag remains wet throughout test by spraying when it begins to dry.
Peppers	warm	6-14	T	
Petunia	cool	7-14	T	
Poppy	cool	2-8	T	Poppies especially do not like warm temperatures.
Portulaca	warm	2-7	T	
Pumpkin	warm	4-7	N/A	Pumpkin seeds do not like excessive moisture. Do not spray the brown bag during the test unless it is very dry.
Radish	cool	4-6	B	
Rudbeckia	warm	7-14	T	
Sage	warm	5-14	B	
Scallions	cool	6-10	B	
Snapdragon	warm	5-12	T	
Spinach	cool	7-21	T	Spinach especially does not like warm temperatures. Also, moisten, rather than soak, the coffee filters.
Squash	warm	4-7	N/A	Squash seeds do not like excessive moisture. Do not spray the brown bag during the test unless it is very dry.
Sunflower	cool	4-7	N/A	
Sweet Pea	cool	7-14	B	Sweet peas especially do not like warm temperatures. Soak seeds in water for 24 hours prior to beginning germination test.
Tomatoes	warm	5-14	B	
Watermelon	warm	4-14	N/A	Watermelon seeds do not like excessive moisture. Do not spray the brown bag during the test unless it is very dry.
Yarrow	warm	7-14	T	
Zinnia	warm	3-7	T	