

Tomato Growing Tip Sheet – Wegman’s Nursery

Sunlight

- Tomatoes require 6–8 hours of direct sun daily for best growth and fruit production.

Planting Basics

- Space plants 2½–3 feet apart. Bury 2–3 inches of the stem when planting to encourage strong root development.
- Mix **Bumper Crop** with soil when planting for improved growth and soil health.

Watering

- Keep soil consistently moist, especially while plants are young. Once established, water deeply about once a week (more often in extreme heat).

Fertilizing

- At planting: Use a starter fertilizer such as **Master Start** or **G&B Starter** at the bottom of the hole.
- After one month: Feed with **Tomato & Vegetable fertilizer** or **G&B Organic fertilizer** (must be mixed into soil).

Pruning

- Do not remove suckers excessively.
- Light pruning is fine.
- Heavy pruning is typically only recommended in greenhouse growing.

Disease Prevention

- Rotate crops yearly to reduce risk of Verticillium wilt.
- Consider planting grafted tomatoes or VFN-resistant varieties.

Pest Control

- Place **Monterey Yellow Sticky Traps** among plants at planting time to catch pests early.
- Use **Captain Jack’s Insecticidal Soap** as needed to control common garden pests.

Support

- Use cages or stakes early while plants are young.
- Choose cages larger than you think you need — tomatoes grow big!