

URBAN FARMER

LOVE THE EARTH

From Seed to Harvest: A beginner's guide to growing Cornflower

Cornflower is an easy-to-grow plant that comes in different colors of blue and purple. It is also known as the bachelor button, and it can be harvested in the summer or fall depending on when it is planted. The Cornflower is an annual flower, and its foliage has a gray-blue hue. Cornflower can reach 3 feet in height and attract birds and butterflies. Blooms can reach up to 1 inch wide.

To plant:

Cornflower is not picky when it comes to soil conditions, but it does prefer a sunny location to grow. Prior to planting, loosen the soil in the garden and amend it with 4 inches of compost. Plant the seeds one week before the last frost of the season and water them regularly until the flowers have germinated. When planting seeds, plant them ¼ inch deep and 1 inch apart. If buying transplants, plant the flowers in the garden after the last frost, but Cornflower doesn't always transplant well.

Cornflower can be planted in the early spring for summer blooms, but since the seedlings are frost tolerant, they can also be planted in the fall for a late winter or early spring bloom.

To grow:

Once Cornflower has sprouted, thin the seedlings to 12 inches. Cornflowers tolerate crowding but will bloom more if allowed more space. Water the flowers 1 inch per week. Once they reach 2 feet and higher, you may need to stake the flowers so they don't fall over. Once Cornflower has bloomed and its blooms have died,



[Dwarf Blue Cornflower seeds available at ufseeds.com](http://ufseeds.com)

deadhead the plant to encourage more growth.

Cornflowers are hardy, but they can be susceptible to mold and mildew if overwatered and not given enough space for good air circulation. Although it is an annual, Cornflower will self-sow itself and grow again the following season.

To harvest:

Cornflowers begin flowering in early June and will continue to flower through August. Sometimes, they can even begin flowering in March if planted in a warmer climate. Cornflowers make a great cut flower to bring inside. Cornflowers also work for dried flower arrangements since the flowers retain their color even after being dried. It can be used in teas, and it is an ingredient in the Twinings Lady Grey tea blend.

What Cornflowers crave:

To encourage growth throughout its season,



100%
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feed the Cornflower with an all-purpose fertilizer once a month. Follow the instructions on the fertilizer for the application amount. Also, to encourage a quicker growth, mix a balanced fertilizer into the soil prior to planting.

Where to buy Cornflower seeds:

Urban Farmer has a wide selection of different types of cornflower seeds that bloom into bright colors.

Check out our Cornflower seed selection on our website at [ufseeds.com!](http://ufseeds.com)



[Tall Pink Cornflower seeds available at ufseeds.com](http://ufseeds.com)



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