

# URBAN FARMER

LOVE THE EARTH

## From Seed to Harvest: A beginner's guide to growing Verbena

Verbena also is known as Vervain, and it is a very popular plant among gardeners because of their unique clusters of blooms and the flower is easy to care for. These flowers are oftentimes planted in rock gardens, in hanging baskets, as a groundcover and in patio containers. Verbena can be annuals or perennials, it just depends on the variety. The height of the plant also depends on the variety, because certain kinds of Verbena can be as high as six feet whereas others are used for groundcover.



[Verbena seed available at ufseeds.com](http://ufseeds.com)

### To plant:

Although Verbena plants are easy to care for, it can be difficult to start them from seed. Seeds prefer well-draining soil in sterile starting soil with light moisture and no light. Verbena seedlings are prone to cold sensitivity, so be sure to plant them at the right time so the seeds have the best chance at survival. Sow verbena seeds indoors 10 to 12 weeks before transplanting them outside. If you want to sow them directly into the garden, plant them in either a cold frame or a raised bed and don't do so until the spring. Verbena seeds can take up to a month to germinate, or as little as 20 days. If planting outdoors, wait until the seedlings have their first set of true leaves and then thin them to 12 inches apart.

### To grow:

Once the plants have grown for about a month, pinch them back to promote thick, dense Verbena. Deadhead the spent blooms regularly, because this will encourage more flowers to grow throughout the season.

Verbenas are heat tolerant and they have a long blooming period. Plan on watering the Verbena at least one inch a week to encourage the best growth and blooms. If blooming halts during the summer, trim the plant back by one-fourth and they should return. Also, trim the Verbena lightly in the fall, but do not cut them back very far, or else the flowers may not return after the winter.

### To harvest:

Depending on the variety of Verbena you grow, you can use them as cut flowers to display in bouquets. If it's a taller variety, the flower will add height and visual strength to the vase to create a cottage feel.

### What Verbena craves:

Fertilize the Verbena lightly with a 16-4-8 fertilizer in the mid-spring, and you can also use this same fertilizing method right after you cut the Verbena back, but other than that, Verbena doesn't require more fertilizer.



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## Where to buy Verbena seeds:

You can find Verbena seed that blooms violet to purple flowers all summer long on our website at [ufseeds.com!](http://ufseeds.com)



[Verbena seed available at ufseeds.com](http://ufseeds.com)



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