

URBAN FARMER

LOVE THE EARTH

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

Campanula, also referred to as bellflowers due to the usually bell-shaped blossoms, have annual, perennial and biennial varieties. There are more than 300 varieties of Campanula. Some varieties have blooms shaped like a star or a cup. The blooms come in colors of purple, blue, white or pink.

To plant:

Begin Campanula seeds indoors up to eight weeks before the last frost. Plant the seeds in planting cells, placing three to four seeds per cell. Cover seeds with 1/16 inch of soil and mist the surface of the soil. Place the planting cells in a sunny area and keep the soil moist. Sprouts should occur in three weeks.

To grow:

Once seedlings reach 4 inches, you can decide if you want to transplant them outside into the garden. However, you can also transplant the seedlings into larger pots and keep them indoors until the fall. Some Campanula varieties will not bloom their first year.

If transplanting to the garden, Campanula prefers full sun and well-drained soil. Space the plants 7 inches apart for smaller varieties and 15 inches apart if they are a bigger variety.

Once Campanula blossoms begin to bloom, cut off or deadhead the old blossoms to encourage more blooms.

Once new growth appears in the spring, you can plant new Campanula plants through division. Dig up the plant and pull



[California Bluebell Campanula seeds available at ufseeds.com](http://ufseeds.com)

or cut a portion off so the plants are now in two or more rooted sections. Replant the Campanula and water thoroughly.

Campanulas are typically free of pests, but they may experience some aphid problems. Spray aphids with water to get rid of them. Look for yellowing leaves to detect if aphids are present. Campanula makes a good companion plant to Lamb's Ear, Columbine, roses and more.

To harvest:

Campanula flowers typically aren't used as cut flowers, but they will produce seed pods in the fall. These pods can be harvested to be used as new seeds for more Campanula plants. Snip off the seed capsules and place them in a paper bag. You can plant the seeds immediately or save them until the spring. In the fall, certain varieties can be cut back the plant to encourage new growth in the spring.



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For some other varieties, it is only necessary to groom the plant by discarding dead leaves.

What Campanula craves:

Prior to transplanting the Campanula outside, turn the soil over 4 to 5 inches and amend it with compost. Feed the Campanula once a month with a 10-10-10 liquid-based fertilizer. Follow the directions on the label for dilution.

Where to buy Campanula seeds:

Urban Farmer sells Campanula seeds that are perfect as indoor and outdoor plants.

Check out our Campanula seed selection on our website at ufseeds.com!



[Carpatica Clip Mix Campanula seeds available at ufseeds.com](http://ufseeds.com)



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