

Grow your own Ginger!

- Ginger is a tropical plant that was first domesticated in the tropical islands of Southeast Asia.
- Today, 32% of the world's ginger is grown in India.
- Ginger needs a long, hot growing season to mature. Thankfully, we get pretty hot here in Virginia! Your ginger will be ready to harvest in early/mid October, right before the first frost. You will need to keep an eye on the weather, and be sure to harvest before the first frost.
- Ginger needs full sun, and about a 2 foot x 2 foot area to grow. Ginger likes rich soil, and lots of fertilizer. Fertilize at least every other week, or use a generous amount of compost worked into the soil. Water consistently to keep the soil evenly moist, but not soggy.
- Ginger can be grown in pots and containers, but the container should be at least 3 gallons or 16 inches in diameter, and remember to prevent the plant from drying out and give it fertilizer every two weeks.
- The horizontal stem, called a rhizome, is the part that we eat, and that the leaves arise from the rhizome at regular intervals. If any part of the rhizome becomes exposed above ground, cover it with more dirt.
- In the fall, move the entire plant inside. If you planted it in the ground, dig up the rhizome (the part we eat) and include as much soil and roots with them as you can. If you planted in the container, simply move the container inside. Ginger does not have a long enough growing season in Virginia to fully ripen, so the skin on the rhizome will be tender, and a soft yellow color instead of the dark tan we are familiar with.
- Because the skin is tender, it will not last as long in storage, and should be consumed within a week of digging and washing. This is the reason for bringing the entire plant inside – you can use as much as you need, and leave the rest attached to the mother plant, which will allow you to use it over a longer period of time!
- Harvesting ginger while it is tender is called “Baby Ginger”. The flavor is very similar but the flesh will not be as tough and stringy.

Have fun!

We are open year-round!

Windmill Heights Garden Center, Inc.

Our Mission

Plants bring beauty and happiness to the world, and we connect people to plants through education, inspiration, and innovative retail.