# Eggplants

Transplanting and caring for Eggplant( Aubergine) seedlings

#### Step 1

**Timing**: Wait until after the last expected frost before transplanting your eggplant seedlings. This will typically be in the late spring or early summer, depending on your location.

## Step 2

**Preparing the Soil**: Choose a sunny spot in your garden that has well-draining soil with a pH between 6.0 and 6.8. Before transplanting your seedlings, work compost or well-rotted manure into the soil to help improve its fertility.

#### Step 3

**Preparing the Seedlings**: Water your eggplant seedlings thoroughly the day before transplanting. This will help prevent them from going into shock during the transplanting process. Carefully remove the seedlings from their pots, being sure to handle them by the leaves and not the stem.

## Step 4

**Transplanting**: Dig a hole in the prepared soil that is slightly larger than the root ball of your seedling. Place the seedling in the hole, being sure to cover the roots completely with soil. Press the soil gently around the base of the seedling to secure it in place.

# Step 5

**Watering**: After transplanting, water your seedlings well to help them settle into their new home. Water deeply, making sure the soil is moist all the way down to the root ball.



# Caring for Eggplant Seedlings

#### Step 1

**Watering**: Eggplants need consistent moisture to grow and produce fruit, so it's important to water them regularly. Water deeply once a week, or more frequently during periods of hot, dry weather.

#### Step 2

**Fertilizing:** Fertilize your eggplants once a month with a balanced fertilizer. You can also side-dress your plants with compost or well-rotted manure to help keep them healthy and productive.

## Step 3

**Mulching:** Mulch around your eggplants with straw, leaves, or grass clippings to help retain moisture in the soil and keep weeds down.

# Step 4

Supporting: Eggplants can grow quite tall and may need

support to keep them from falling over. Stake or cage your plants to keep them upright.

# Step 5

**Pest Control:** Keep an eye out for pests such as flea beetles and aphids, which can damage your eggplants. Use organic pest control methods, such as spraying with neem oil or introducing beneficial insects like ladybugs.

By following these tips, you can successfully transplant and care for your eggplant seedlings, and enjoy a bountiful harvest of this delicious and nutritious vegetable.

