

Green Leaf Depot - 10 week Growing Guide

Week 1: Germination & early seeding stage

Germination usually takes 1-3 days. During this time, the seed will activate & send a root down into the soil & shoot about the surface.

- Autoflowers don't need as much nutrients as feminized seeds & prefer light & airy soil
- Make your soil mixer by mixing your soil & nutrients into a pot, then:
 - Poke a hole (0.4-0.6 Inches) into a pot with soil mix
 - Place seed into hole & cover lightly with soil
- Environment factors play a key role in optimal germination aim for the following to boost success rate:
 - 70-90% relative humidity (RH) & 22-25 degrees celsius

Week 2: Late Seeding Stage

Your seeding has now emerged & the process of photosynthesis has started.

- A 250W LED light will provide enough power to fuel indoor growing - be able to have 1 large plant per square meter
 - LED lights are energy efficient, produce less heat & allow users to switch between light spectrums.
 - Switch light to the blue setting during the vegetative phase & set timer to chosen light schedule.
- Now start adding nutritional formulas specifically designed for the seeding & vegetative phase.

Week 3: Vegetation well underway

Week 3 will consist of low-stress training & maintaining optimal conditions - your plant will be well into vegetative phase.

- You'll start to notice new fan leaves.
- Aim for the following environment factors during week 3:
 - 50% RH, 20 degrees celsius, 2 times feed
- Your plant will be around 5.9 inches, Reposition your light so it hangs 1m from the tip of the canopy.
- Your plant will be thirsty enough to drink around 0.5L of water a day - only water once the top layer of soil has dried out.
- When growing indoors, apply low stress training during week 3 to boost productivity during flowering stage- simply tie a piece of soft garden wire halfway up the main stem, then gently bend the stem parallel to the ground & secure it in position by attaching the other end of the wire to the rim of the pot. This will flatten the canopy & expose more bud sites to the light.

Week 4: Late vegetative phase

During week 4, your plant will be nearing the beginning of the flowering stage. This week will consist of making some minor training adjustments & gearing up for flowering.

- Aim for the following environmental conditions for optimal growth:
 - 40% RH, 20 degrees celsius, light 27.3 inches from canopy, 0.5L water per 24 hours, 2 times feed
- You may start to notice some pre-flowers forming at the nodes on your plant. You'll need to finish off any training to avoid stressing your plant during bloom.
- Use garden ties to pin down any additional growth to flatten out the canopy & keep all future bud sites at the same level.

Week 5: Flowering begins

During week 5, you'll start to see small sacs topped with hair emerging at the nodes- will gradually turn into sticky & resinous buds.

- This week, continue dialing in environmental conditions & adjusting lighting.
- Your plant will be roughly 11.7 inches tall.
- Aim for the following parameters if your growing indoors:
 - 45% RH, 23 degrees celsius, 1L of water per 24 hours, 2 times feed
- Change the light setting from blue to red - this spectrum of light encourages the budding process & helps plants stretch & expand during the early flowering stage.
- Your plant will require amendments to their nutrition during the flowering phase. Higher demands for phosphorus, potassium, calcium, magnesium & less need for nitrogen.

Week 6: Things start to smell

Flowers will be proliferating at each bud site now (you'll notice your training start to pay off)

- Canopy develops a consistent spread evenly sized buds
- During week 6, drop the humidity slightly to minimize the risk of mold- aim for these parameters:
 - 40% RH 24 degrees celsius, Light 17.6 inches from canopy, 1.5L of water per 24 hours, 3 times feed
- Keep an eye out for any odd banana, like structure protruding from buds - this signals that your plant is hermaphroditic & attempting to pollinate itself. Remove these from the grow space to stop them from pollinating nearby plants. Hermaphrodites are rare, but still worth looking for.

Week 7: Routine checks are key

Goal of week 7 is maintenance – focus your time & energy on keeping the grow room balanced.

- Be cautious of letting humidity get too high – this can cause mold issues!
- Conduct routine checks with a magnifying glass to look for pests like thrips & spider mites.
- Continue to check leaves for signs of nutrient deficiency – Likely be due to PH level issues.
- Aim to maintain the following conditions:
 - 40% RH, 24 degrees celsius, 1.5L of water per 24 hour, 3 times feed

Week 8: Flush & Defoliate

Your buds will be looking thick & resinous – Most Autos will be ready to harvest soon!

- If your plant is lagging (don't worry) treat it as still week 7 & proceed after the buds have gained more size.
- Environmental conditions for week 8:
 - 40% RH, 25 degrees celsius, Light 17.6 inches from canopy, 1.5L of water per 24 hours, stop feeding your plant.
- At the start of week 8, you'll want to start flushing your plant:
 - Flood the soil with as much water as it can hold & wait for it to empty. Repeat this process several times over the next 2 weeks – Flushing removes excess nutrients & gives your bud a smooth taste.
- Now get your trimmers and start defoliating:
 - This method works really well alongside low-stress training to further enhance yields.
 - Cut away the small fan leaves from the lower nodes & the shabbier fan leaves near the top of the canopy – this will help increase light exposure & further reduce the risk of mold.

Week 9: Finish line approaches

- Strive to keep these environmental factors in balance to avoid any final infestations or other issues:
 - 40% RH, 25 degrees celsius, Light 17.6 inches from canopy, 1.5L water per 24 hour
- You'll notice the fan leaves start changing color & falling off. This means you successfully flushed your plants!

Week 10: Harvesting

Many autoflowers will be ready to harvest during week 10. You will know your buds are ready to be snipped when the majority of trichomes are milky in color & pistils have taken on a reddish/brown hue. If your buds are ripe & others aren't, try progressive harvest. Don't worry if your plant is behind or ahead, some autos grow faster than others!

Harvesting the marijuana plant

There are no rules to harvesting except to be careful handling your plants - you want to disturb the delicate trichomes as little as possible!

Common Methods:

- Some will wet trim which is removing all the leaves while the plant is still standing then break the plant down further
- Hang branches to dry or lay individual buds on a drying rack
- Some will remove the large sugar leaves only then harvest & hang the whole plant

Drying & Curing cannabis

- Dry your buds in a dark cool place with little humidity (Ideally, this process is very slow & should take a minimum of 2 weeks)
- Check things often for over drying or molds.
- When dry, thin branches will easily snap - thick branches will still be slightly flexible.
- The chlorophyll has degraded & the green of growth has been replaced with species dependent colors. (fawn, tan, a pale green or even deep blue & purple can emerge as the buds true dry colors develop)

Storing cured bud

- Loosely pack a well- sealed glass jar with your flower
- Open the top to "burp" the jar once a day for the first 2 weeks (by doing this it releases build up humidity which can cause mold)
- Once the flowers are dry to the touch only "burp" the jar once a week (don't lack attention)

How long does cannabis take to cure

You can cure for as long as you like. Remember that the psychotropic compounds drop a water molecule when properly cured & become more psychoactive.

- This takes at least 6 weeks when cured under ideal conditions.
- The longer the cure the smoother the result.
- Keep your jars in a dark cool place (THC breaks down into other cannabinoids over time when exposed to light)
- If unsure about bud dryness sample as they dry, so you have reference in the future
- Dry cannabis doesn't really feel completely dry because of the waxiness of the resins (you will develop the feeling & skill pretty quickly)