

# Backyard Corn

*Learn how to grow corn by reading the passage below.*

<sup>1</sup> Corn is fairly easy to grow. Even in a small backyard garden, a family can grow enough corn for quite a number of yummy meals.

<sup>2</sup> First, take care of the soil, just like for any garden. Work it up as deeply as you can. Chop up clumps of dirt, and rake the surface smooth.

<sup>3</sup> Next comes the planting. Place seeds 2 inches deep and about 12 inches apart.

Your rows should be about 2 feet apart. Keep the soil moist. You'll have to wait for 10 to 15 days for the seeds to sprout. Once they do sprout, water them (if it doesn't rain), and keep the rows clear of weeds.

<sup>4</sup> About 70 to 90 days after you plant your corn seeds, you will be able to enjoy your first harvest. Pass the butter and the salt, please!





Write these steps in the correct order.

- watch plants grow
- plant seeds
- water soil
- harvest corn
- prepare soil

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

6. At the end of the article, why does the author say, "Pass the butter and the salt, please"?

\_\_\_\_\_

7. What is the main idea of paragraph 2?

\_\_\_\_\_

8. It takes the seeds \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ days to sprout.

9. Based on the text, how do you think the author feels about growing corn?

\_\_\_\_\_

10. If you could choose to grow something in a garden, what would it be? Why?

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