



## Small Space Carrot Growing Checklist

- **Choose the Right Variety**
  - Select short/rooted types for smaller containers
  - Try round carrot varieties for shallow pots
  - Use 'Nantes', 'Danvers', or other classics for deep pots (12"+)
  - Always check seed packet for mature size and harvest time
- **Pick Your Container**
  - Choose pots/boxes at least as deep as your carrot variety (minimum 8–12", 6" for minis)
  - Opt for wider containers for more carrots
  - Ensure containers have good drainage (add 1/4–1/2 inch holes if needed)
  - Line bottom with screen/hardware cloth to retain soil, allow drainage
- **Prep the Soil**
  - Use a loose, rock-free, well-draining vegetable potting mix
  - Mix potting soil and compost (2:1 ratio)
  - Add bone meal for root growth
  - Avoid fresh manure (causes forked/hairy carrots)
  - Fill container to 1" from top, gently press soil
- **Sowing Seeds**
  - Direct sow carrot seeds—do NOT transplant
  - Sprinkle seeds thinly and barely cover with ¼" soil
  - Mist and keep moist for 1–2 weeks (cover soil with burlap/cardboard if hot, remove after sprouts appear)
- **Care & Maintenance**
  - Water consistently; keep soil evenly moist to prevent cracking/bitter roots
  - Thin seedlings to 2" apart after they have two true leaves
  - Place pots where they get 6+ hours sunlight daily

- Feed with diluted organic liquid fertilizer every 3–4 weeks
- **Disease & Pest Management**
  - Check for aphids (spray with water/insecticidal soap)
  - Watch for leaf spot (remove infected leaves, improve air circulation)
  - Rotate crops/sterilize containers between seasons
- **Harvesting**
  - Expect harvest in 50–80 days (variety dependent)
  - Test pull—ready when finger-thick
  - Water before harvest for easy pulling
  - Cut off tops and store roots in the refrigerator
- **Extra Tips**
  - Experiment with carrot colors/types and sowing times for successive harvests
  - Try pots, grow bags, raised beds, or square-foot boxes

Use this checklist to ensure success with tasty, straight carrots—no matter how small your gardening space!

If you have gardening questions, book a call or email me at [stephanie@allaboutgardeningguides](mailto:stephanie@allaboutgardeningguides).

I charge \$25 for up to 15 minutes.