

Not everyone is lucky enough to have a full day of sun to grow a garden of vegetables. While tomatoes might not be the best choice for a shady area, there are lots of options! Here is a list of vegetables that require at least four hours of sunlight per day, but often thrive with less than six hours of direct sunlight.

### **Beans**

Bush beans do better with closer to 6 hours of sunlight, vine varieties can do great with less as long as they're trellised.

### **Beets**

Beets thrive when they're partially shaded, even in relatively dry conditions.

### **Broccoli**

Broccoli that gets full sun will flower quickly, ruining the taste, while partial sun encourages tighter heads and slower flowering.

### **Cabbage**

Too much sun will dry cabbage out and encourage smaller heads.

### **Carrots**

Too much sun encourages carrots to grow more foliage than root, so limiting sunlight means larger carrots.

### **Cauliflower**

Similar to broccoli, limit sunlight to under 6 hours daily for tighter cauliflower heads.

### **Cilantro/Coriander**

Limiting sunlight to this popular herb and spice will help keep the plants smaller and larger-leafed, meaning better harvest and more concentrated flavor.

### **Leek**

Leeks thrive in cooler, more moist environments compared to their regular root onion cousins.

### **Onions**

Like most root-based vegetables, onions need less sun in order to encourage below-ground growth.

### **Pea**

Like beans, peas will grow more plant than edible pods if it has too much light.

### **Radish**

Another root plant where it's more important to focus on root growth.

### **Rutabaga**

Growing similar to beets and onions, rutabagas need restricted sunlight to encourage larger roots.

### **Turnips**

Turnips, similar to carrots, send roots downwards with less light available.

The following vegetables thrive in even less sunlight- as little as 2-4 hours per day.

**Arugula**

Sunlight shrivels arugula leaves, so this is a good plant to put under larger plants or in containers on shaded patios.

**Brussels sprouts**

Brussels sprouts are a cold-tolerant plant that enjoy limited sunlight.

**Endive**

Of all the lettuce-type plants, endive is likely the most shade-loving.

**Kale**

Like its cabbage relatives, kale loves cold weather and little light.

**Leaf lettuce**

Most lettuce plants prefer less sun. Too much heat produces bitter lettuce.

**Mustard greens**

Grow in flower gardens and near porches where sunlight is limited.

**Spinach**

Spinach needs cooler temperatures and less sun.

**Swiss chard**

Like other leafy vegetables, swiss chard doesn't enjoy a lot of sunlight.

Use the shade of other plants to provide perfect growing conditions for plants that prefer less light. Use stalks of corn to provide partial shade for smaller radishes and peas, and large-leafed squash and pumpkin plants for near complete shade for smaller carrots or turnips.