

# USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Maps

The United States Department of Agriculture has provided gardeners across America this nifty little tool called the 'Hardiness Zone Map.' The USDA Plant Hardiness Map is a good tool to use when deciding what plants will grow well in your region. If you don't already know your Zone, check out the links below for the Zone Map to your part of the country. As this is a U.S. government agency, they didn't think to include other countries, but our Canadian visitors can simply use the temperature guides below (or on the maps) to find out your USDA Zone equivalent for your area. You may have to consult with your local weather records to be sure. Hardiness zones are sometimes referred to in gardening books, magazines as well as in mail order catalogs and nurseries. The GreenWeb sometimes references this information and is in the process of updating it's seed listings with the information whenever available.

It's important to remember that Zone information is a guideline. Within any region there are different climates due to various factors, like topography, water masses, canyon and mountain landmarks. These can cause airflows to be altered locally which can be enough to raise or lower your lowest temperature, thus possibly changing the appropriate Zone for your garden. For plants that will grow inside your home, Hardiness Zones become far less important. Unless your prone to forgetting to pay the heating bill, it's doubtful the temperature will ever drop below Zone 11 (40 degrees Fahrenheit / 4.4 degrees Celsius). So, for all intensive purposes, you can consider your houseplant environment like Hawaii ! Many tub and container plants can take advantage of your home by being moved inside when the weather chills, and then back outside after the last frost has hit. Sort of a tropical winter-long vacation for your plants. Since plants also add to the home environment as well as freshening, cleaning and oxygenating the air, it's also a pleasant way for you to spend the winter as well. Especially considering that winter weather may force you to spend more time indoors. Here are the links that will take you to the right Zone Map for your region. Be patient as they may take a few moments to load. For additional and detailed information about your Zone, look on this page past the map links that follow.

[USDA ZONE MAP for Alaska & Hawaii, USA](#)  
[USDA ZONE MAP for the Eastern Half of the USA Mainland](#)  
[USDA ZONE MAP for the Western Half of the USA Mainland](#)  
[Additional and Detailed USDA Hardiness Zone Info!](#)  
 Below are specific details about what comprises your USDA Plant Hardiness Zone (or foreign equivalent) including the Celsius temperatures too. You'll also find some official USDA definitions and projected frost dates as well. Approximate range of Average Annual MINIMUM Temperatures

C = Centigrade/ F = Fahrenheit

Zone 1 = below -45C/ -50F  
 Zone 2 = -45C/-40C -50F/-40F  
 Zone 3 = -40C/-34C -40F/-30F  
 Zone 4 = -34C/-29C -30F/-20F  
 Zone 5 = -29C/-23C -20F/-10F  
 Zone 6 = -23C/-18C -10F/ 0F  
 Zone 7 = -18C/-12C 0 F/+10F  
 Zone 8 = -12C/- 7C +10F/+20F  
 Zone 9 = - 7C/- 1C +20F/+30F  
 Zone 10 = - 1C/+ 4C +30F/+40F  
 Zone 11 = above+4C/ +40F

## Average Zone Frost Dates

NOTE: The dates below are for the Northern Hemisphere

Zone 1 = Average dates Last Frost = 1 Jun / 30 Jun  
 Average dates First Frost = 1 Jul / 31 Jul  
 Note: vulnerable to frost 365 days per year

Zone 2 = Average dates Last Frost = 1 May / 31 May  
 Average dates First Frost = 1 Aug / 31 Aug

Zone 3 = Average dates Last Frost = 1 May / 31 May  
 Average dates First Frost = 1 Sep / 30 Sep

Zone 4 = Average dates Last Frost = 1 May / 30 May  
 Average dates First Frost = 1 Sep / 30 Sep

Zone 5 = Average dates Last Frost = 30 Mar / 30 Apr  
Average dates First Frost = 30 Sep / 30 Oct

Zone 6 = Average dates Last Frost = 30 Mar / 30 Apr  
Average dates First Frost = 30 Sep / 30 Oct

Zone 7 = Average dates Last Frost = 30 Mar / 30 Apr  
Average dates First Frost = 30 Sep / 30 Oct

Zone 8 = Average dates Last Frost = 28 Feb / 30 Mar  
Average dates First Frost = 30 Oct / 30 Nov

Zone 9 = Average dates Last Frost = 30 Jan / 28 Feb  
Average dates First Frost = 30 Nov / 30 Dec

Zone 10 = Average dates Last Frost = 30 Jan or before  
Average dates First Frost = 30 Nov / 30 Dec

Zone 11 = Free of Frost throughout the year.  
Frost Definitions: Frost: Light Freeze. damage depends upon  
length of frost duration.

Light Freeze: -2C/-0C OR 29F/32F - tender plants  
killed with little destructive  
effect on other vegetation.

Moderate Freeze:-8C/-2C OR 25F/28F - wide destruction  
on most vegetation with heavy  
damage to fruit blossoms and  
tender semi-hardy plants.

Severe Freeze: -9C OR 24F and colder, heavy damage  
to most plants.  
Sunlight Definitions: Shade: Usually an area under a closed tree canopy  
that receives no direct sun at all.

Partial Usually an area under a lone or limited  
Shade: number of trees receiving only a 1 to 5  
hours of dappled sun during the day.

Partial Usually refers to an area that receives  
Sun: approximately 3 - 5 hours of full  
sun per day.

Full Sun: Refers to an area receiving 6 or more  
hours of full sun per day.

Hopefully by now, you're not all zoned out. If you have further questions about your  
zone, you might find additional information from the USDA's own plant database web site which can be found in  
our "Other Plant Loving Links" section under databases.