

# Choosing the Perfect Tomato

What's makes a tomato perfect? That's a very personal decision. Productivity, appearance, disease resistance, and of course, flavor, are all considerations. I grow the best of the best tomato varieties, so rest assured you can't go wrong. Here are some categories to help you choose from those we offer.

<b>Bi-colors</b> Pineapple Mr. Stripey Hillbilly Big Rainbow Hazel's Striped  <b>Orange</b> Persimmon	<b>Main crops</b> Rose de Berne Box Car Willie Mortgage Lifter Mexico Jerusalem Black Krim German Queen	<b>Flavor winners</b> Jerusalem Mortgage Lifter Italian Sweet Brandywine (Sudduth's) Tiffen Mennonite Todd County Amish German Queen <i>Really all the varieties I grow have great flavor.</i>	<b>Smaller Plants</b> Jerusalem The "Little Fellers" Below Cherokee Purple  <b>Oxheart</b> Jerusalem Bull's Heart
<b>Little Fellers</b> Reisenraube Sprite Principe Borgese White Cherry Purple Russian	<b>Medium sized</b> Mr. Stripey Rose de Berne Cherokee Purple Black Krim Green Zebra  <b>Yellow</b> Gi.Belgium Yellow Lemon Yellow	<b>Super Size Me</b> Giant Belgium (to 5 lbs) Italian Sweet (to 3 lbs) Persimmon (to 2 lbs +) Giant Belgium Pink Jerusalem German Giant <i>Most of my tomatoes are beefsteak types, averaging 1-1 ½ pounds, which is pretty big.</i>	<b>Regional Heirlooms</b> Jerusalem Aunt Ruby's German Green Hazel's Striped Lemon Yellow Cherokee Purple Hillbilly German Johnson Pineapple Tidwell German Hazel's German
<b>Cool Colors</b> Black Krim Cherokee Purple Aunt Ruby's German Green White Cherry Green Zebra	<b>Drying</b> Principe Borghese Reisenraube <i>A dehydrator is a great investment if you like "sundried" tomatoes! Look in thrift stores...</i>	<b>Paste/Canning</b> A Grappoli Corbarino Amish Paste Mama Leone Howard German Opalka	<b>Can only grow one?</b> Make it one of these: Jerusalem Mortgage Lifter Black Krim Todd County Amish German Johnson

All tomatoes need full sun, regular moisture, and fertile soil. I recommend and sell an organic product called Tomato Tone, among other things. Tomatoes also do much better when staked, and grown over mulch, such as black plastic or newspaper, leaves, grass clippings, or straw. The mulch suppresses weeds, and also prevents disease by keeping the plant's leaves from contacting the soil. Happy Gardening! -Christy

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