

cheat sheet container gardening with roma tomatoes



plan

- Plant: Viva Italia (determinate) mature quickly, single harvest
- Space & Light: Place your plant in Full sun
- Container: Get a medium container (20 qt/18 liters) with drainage holes at the bottom (depth min 12in/30cm)
- Soil: Choose a well-draining mix for container gardening
- Fertilizer: tomato or liquid seaweed fertilizer
- Watering Can: Get a 3 gal/11 liter for containers

plant

- Fill the container with soil (right below the rim of the container)
- Mix in fertilizer for new planting (follow the measurement on the fertilizer)
- Dig a deep hole (about 2/3 down) to stimulate root growth (covering the entire root ball and a good part of the stem)
- Gently remove plant from the pot
- Use both hands to place the plant in the soil
- Use one hand to hold the plant in place, other hand to cover the entire root ball with soil
- Water gently and evenly after planting



grow

- Water: Water regularly and evenly
- Fertilize: every other week to restore the fertilizer washed away from watering (time-released or liquid mixed in watering can)
- Support: place a tomato cage around the tomato plant for support (make sure the leaves, stems, and tomatoes are supported on a rung as they grow)

care

- Heat-loving (full sun)
- Keep soil evenly moist to avoid cracking in tomatoes
- Pests (hornworms and cutworms); watch, pick off and toss in soapy water
- Companion plant with basil to ward off pests, help the soil, and a sweeter tomato taste (win-win-win)



harvest

- 70 days for Viva Italia (Roma Tomato)
- Watch for full red color
- Use kitchen scissors to cut the fruit stem and get several tomatoes at once
- Gently twist a tomato while holding the stem to enjoy just one

