

What to do in January

General Tasks

1. Check all of your machinery
2. Tidy your shed
3. Decide what you want to grow and order the seeds
4. Insulate the greenhouse. Clear and tidy your undercover space so you will be ready to get growing when the time is right.
5. Wash your planting pots
6. Check your sundries (stakes, netting and so on)
7. Install water butts to collect water just in case of a dry summer
8. Make your own labels - use tree branches an inch in thickness or waste timber and paint it matt white. Then you can use a permanent pen to write on it. You can reuse it the next year by painting it white again.
9. Clear away decaying leaves from any plants
10. Dig over the garden ASAP if you have not done so already.
11. Keep the soil warm for early sowing by using black polythene sheeting.
12. Spread manure or compost to improve the soil or add fertility
13. Chit seed potatoes

Fruits

1. Dig and divide your rhubarb. Replant and covered it with compost or manure. You can encourage early growth by covering it with a bucket.
2. Plant bare-rooted fruit trees, fruit bushes, hedging and garlic
3. Continue pruning apple and pear trees
4. Any trees and bushes grown on grass need a nitrogen feed.
5. Keep a check on the fruits in storage

Planting Now

1. Shallots and onion sets can be planted if the soil is not wet. There is still time if you have not planted your garlic yet.

Sow Now

1. Salad leaves
2. Sprouting leaves
3. Micro greens
4. Greenhouse tomatoes
5. Dwarf French beans
6. Leeks
7. Garden peas

Harvest Now

Leeks, Winter Cabbages, Brussels Sprouts, Kale, Broccoli, Chicory, Celery, Celeriac, Spinach, Jerusalem Artichokes, Endive, Winter Lettuce, Salsify, Scorzonera, Swedes, Turnips and Parsnips