POTATOES – A QUICK GUIDE TO TYPES 2024

**FIRST EARLIES** – plant late Feb/early March (with frost protection)

grow rapidly in 10-12 weeks

produce moderate crops of small (new) potatoes in June or July before potato blight can take hold.

**SECOND EARLIES** – plant about a month later, late March/April

ready in 14-16 weeks, can be lifted in July or August

produce larger harvests

**MAINCROP** – plant in April, ready in 16-22 weeks, take the longest to grow

need the most room to grow

produce the largest potatoes and yield

ready in August for immediate consumption, or can be left until September or October before they are lifted for winter storage

store well in cool dark places

the most susceptible to potato blight

POTATO VARIETY DESCRIPTION SHEET 2024

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| **FIRST EARLIES** |
| FOREMOST | Large white oval tuber. Old favourite. Excellent flavour. Good boiler. White flowers. |
| RED DUKE OF YORK | Deep red floury potato. Vigorous. Excellent for mashing and roasting. Wonderful flavour. Violet flowers. |
| ROCKET | Heavy crops of round white waxy tubers. Perfect for boiling, salads and chipping. Red/violet flowers. |
| **SECOND EARLIES** |
| CHARLOTTE | SALAD POTATO Light yellow long oval waxy tuber. High yielding waxy flavoursome. Ideal for boiling whole, good for salads.. Red/violet flowers. |
| KESTREL | Striking blue eyes. Great all-rounder especially for boiling, baking or roasting. Good disease resistance. Blue/violet flowers. |
| **MAINCROP** |
| Cara | Extremely high yielding robust potato, good for baking and chipping. Copes well in drought. Excellent resistance to diseases, including blight. White flowers. |
| Desiree | Red-skinned potatoes with a fairly waxy texture that works well as an all-rounder. Their creamy yellow flesh makes a good mash. High resistance to drought. Pink/white flowers. |
| Maris Piper | Oval cream tubers. Good yield and flavour. Stores well. Most widely grown in the UK. Great roasted, mashed, boiled, chipped or baked, despite being dry and floury. Red/violet flower. |
| Picasso | Oval white tubers with pink eyes and cream to light yellow flesh. Massive yields, good keeper, mild taste. Pink flowers. |
| Pink Fir Apple | SALAD POTATO Heritage variety with long knobbly pink skinned tubers. Cook whole, delicious hot or cold. Lovely nutty flavour. Matures late, stores well. White flowers. |
| Sarpo Mira | Oval pink skinned tuber. Good all-rounder with high yields of floury tasty tubers. Good flavour. Excellent resistance to blight. Stores well. White/pink flowers.  |