

Congratulations! It usually takes six to eight weeks for plants started from seed to be ready for outdoor planting if it is springtime. Otherwise, keep that happy plant in a pot on the patio and watch it grow.

1. Cover the cup with a plastic lid that allows light through but holds moisture in. Plastic bags work well. With adequate moisture, condensation will develop inside this tent or cover.
2. Place your plant pot in a bright spot, but not in direct sunlight.
3. As soon as you notice seed sprouting, remove the cover.
4. Continue to add water as needed to keep the soil moist but not wet. Once the cover has been removed, the soil will tend to dry out more quickly.
5. When outdoor conditions are right and your seedlings are more mature, gradually move them into full sun. This process is called "hardening" and prevents sudden changes in light and wind conditions that may injure tender seedlings.
6. In about six weeks, the seedlings will be ready to be planted into the garden if it is springtime, otherwise, keep them in the pot but now it can be placed in partial or full sunlight.
7. As your seedlings grow taller, water them from the bottom of the pot. This encourages root growth.