

# **Beefsteak Tomatoes (Hybrid)**

## **Growth Habit:**

- Beefsteak tomatoes are typically indeterminate, meaning they continue to grow and produce fruit throughout the season.

## **Best Uses:**

- These large tomatoes are perfect for slicing and adding to sandwiches, burgers, or salads. They can also be used for grilling, canning, and making sauces.

## **Growing Information:**

- Beefsteak tomatoes require full sun and well-draining soil with a pH of 6.0 to 6.8.
- Start seeds indoors 6 to 8 weeks before your last frost date, and transplant seedlings outdoors after hardening off.
- Space plants 24 to 36 inches apart, and provide support using stakes or cages due to the large fruit size.

## **Maintenance Information:**

- Prune suckers to encourage fruit production and prevent the plant from becoming too bushy.
- Water consistently, providing about 1 to 2 inches of water per week.

## **Pest Management:**

- Monitor for common tomato pests like aphids, whiteflies, and spider mites.
- Check for signs of fungal diseases like early blight or late blight, and remove infected leaves promptly.

## **Companion Plants:**

- Good companion plants for beefsteak tomatoes include basil, marigolds, and nasturtiums, which help repel pests.
- Avoid planting tomatoes near fennel, potatoes, or other members of the nightshade family.