

# **Champion Tomatoes (Hybrid)**

**Growth Habit:** Determinate, compact bush type

**Best Uses:** Fresh eating, salads, and snacking

## **Growing Information:**

- Full sun
- Well-draining soil with a pH of 6.0 to 6.8
- Start seeds indoors 6 to 8 weeks before the last frost
- Transplant seedlings outdoors after hardening off
- Space plants 18 to 24 inches apart

## **Maintenance Information:**

- Minimal pruning required due to determinate growth habit
- Water consistently, providing 1 to 2 inches of water per week
- Fertilize with a balanced tomato fertilizer at planting and again after the first fruit set

## **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
- Champion tomatoes are generally disease-resistant

## **Companion Plants:**

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