Botanical name: Genus: Tagetes Species: spp. Common Name(s): Marigold

Latin Family Name: Asteraceae English Family Name: Aster

## The plant

**Origin:** country or region: Tagetes plants are native to the Americas **Growth habit:** Tagetes is a genus of annual or perennial, mostly herbaceous plants in the sunflower family Asteraceae

Marigold is one of the most important flowering annuals cultivated in India

**Flower description:** Showy, fragrant. Blooms naturally occur in golden, orange, yellow, and white colors, often with maroon highlights

Blooming period/availability: The marigold tend to be planted as

annuals, the plant is hardy, annual **Leaf/Foliage Description:** Fragrant

## Usage

STRENGTHS/OPPORTUNITIES: Adds a touch of colour and festivity Good for garden borders Good as a container pot Easily available and easy to grow WEAKNESS:

Tagetes patula (French marigold): The most common type found in local nurseries. They are compact annuals Tagetes erecta (African marigold): These are the tallest variety of marigolds. Dense double and pompon-like. Tagetes tenuifolia (Signet marigold): Flowerheads are single, edible and often used as a bright topper for salads, pasta and vegetables.



## Care & Handling

**Longevity:** If the perpetration is good the bloom will last for many months

Water requirements: Regular water in hot weather like India.

Light: Full sun to semi shade

Plants are much more compact and bloom much more in full sunlight

Soil/Nutrition requirements: Needs a well fertilized soil

**Special care/remarks:** Marigolds are a great companion in your vegetable garden and can help protect your veggies from predators and pests



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