

[Print Article](#)

# How to Germinate a Wave Petunia

By Carlye Jones, eHow Contributor



Wave petunias, introduced in 1995, are the only type of low-growing, rapidly spreading petunia. Although purple was the first color introduced and remains among the most popular, Wave petunias also come in several shades of pink as well as blue, salmon, lilac and white. Growing them from seed takes time, more than two months, but the result is dozens of fast-spreading petunias that bloom throughout the entire summer. It is also much more affordable than purchasing

established Wave petunia plants.

Difficulty: Moderate

## Instructions

### Things You'll Need

- Seed pots
- Plastic wrap
- Plastic container
- Potting soil or milled sphagnum moss
- Pencil
- Spray bottle

- 1 Choose the right time to plant the seeds. Wave petunias need more time than many other plants and flowers before they can be safely planted outdoors. About 10 to 12 weeks before the last frost is the right time to start petunia seeds indoors. In many climates, this is early March.
- 2 Fill the seed pots about three-fourths full with potting soil or milled sphagnum moss.

Pour water into a plastic container until it is about 2 inches deep.

Place the seed pots in the water and wait for the soil to draw the water in and become moist. This usually takes 15 to 30 minutes.

Remove the pots from the water and let them drain for two to three hours.

Sprinkle the seeds on top of the soil. If the seeds are pelleted, or coated to make them larger, place five to six seeds in each pot. If the petunia Wave seeds are not pelleted, pinch a small amount between two fingers and rub your fingers together to sprinkle them on the soil. Don't worry about counting the nonpelleted seeds since they are so small. If too many germinate in a single pot, they can be thinned later.

Push the seeds against the soil with the back of a pencil eraser. Don't cover the seeds, just help them make good contact with the soil.

Spray the seeds with a fine mist of water using a spray bottle.

Cover the pots with plastic wrap.

Place the pots in a warm, sunny location that receives indirect sunlight. Choose a location that consistently stays between 75 and 80 degrees Fahrenheit. Wait 10 to 12 days for the seeds to germinate, spraying the top of the soil every few days if it starts to look dry.

## Tips & Warnings

- Place fluorescent lights four to six inches above the seed pots for 16 hours each day if a location with plenty of indirect sunlight is not available.