

# Separate germination light needs from seedling light after emergence

A clearer sequence for germination and seedling light guidance

## Name the growing stage

Seed instructions may address two different parts of the growing process: the conditions needed while a seed germinates and the guidance that applies after a seedling emerges. A statement about light during germination should not be interpreted as a lasting rule for every later stage. Likewise, advice about an emerged seedling should not be presented as if it describes sowing or germination. Clear stage labels help customers understand what changes and when.

## Build the packet sequence around the customer's task

A useful instruction guides the reader through a sequence: what happens at sowing, what applies during germination, and what should be considered after seedlings appear. At each transition, the relevant crop-specific guidance should be identified. University of Minnesota Extension discusses both seed requirements and the conditions needed for healthy indoor seedlings, illustrating why these stages should not be compressed into one generic light statement. If a packet instruction is shortened, the final wording must still make the stage clear when read on its own.

## Describe growing conditions without assuming every setup works

Avoid a universal windowsill promise. A bright-looking location can change through the day and may not provide the conditions intended in the article. When supporting a customer, ask about the actual growing setup rather than assuming that every window, season and crop is equivalent. Keep any equipment recommendation proportionate and relevant to the identified crop. A recommendation should help explain the growing requirement, not imply that one accessory automatically resolves every seedling problem.

## Check crop details, translations and visual cues

Seed-covering instructions must remain crop-specific. Do not copy one burial or surface-sowing rule across a flower range simply because several articles use the same packet template. Check the selected article and relevant guidance; if a critical question remains unanswered, seek clarification before approving the text. Review translations carefully because shortened wording can erase the distinction between germination and post-emergence light. Icons should also be checked for ambiguity. A sun symbol may suggest a mature plant's position, a germination requirement or a decorative theme, so pair it with explicit wording whenever it carries instructional meaning. Before publication, ask a colleague to identify the actions associated with sowing, germination and emergence. If that sequence is unclear, revise the structure and retain the approved version with the article record for future updates.

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