

ENGLAND / WALES

NOVEMBER 2026 | Small-space garden guide

The south/coast may stay mild, but northern, inland and upland gardens need earlier protection. Wet Welsh coasts need drainage even without severe frost.

SOW

Broad beans. Overwintering varieties outdoors in mild, free-draining areas, under cloches if needed; modules in cold districts.
Microgreens. Cress, mustard and pea shoots on a bright windowsill; reliable for very small spaces.
Winter leaves. Keep existing protected lettuce, corn salad and spinach cropping; fresh outdoor sowings grow slowly now.

PLANT

Garlic. Cloves outdoors in mild, well-drained spots, otherwise into modules in a cold frame.
Bare-root fruit. Compact fruit bushes, raspberry canes and patio fruit trees, avoiding frozen or waterlogged soil.
Spring bulbs. Plant tulips in deep containers; use grit and drainage holes to avoid wet compost.

HARVEST

Winter vegetables. Leeks, kale, Brussels sprouts, winter cabbage, chard and protected salads.
Roots. Carrots, parsnips, swede and celeriac; mulch roots left in the ground.
Stored crops. Check apples, pears, potatoes and squash regularly and use damaged produce first.

PEST WATCH

Slugs in mild spells. Inspect protected winter salads after rain; tolerate light cosmetic damage.
Brassica pests. Pigeons, cabbage whitefly and mealy cabbage aphid can remain troublesome.
Vine-weevil grubs. Look for root damage in pots that wilt despite moist compost.
Leek problems. Inspect leeks for rust or mining damage; use insect mesh where a local problem persists.

TOP 3 TASKS

1 Plant for next year. Plant garlic and overwintering broad beans where conditions suit; use modules elsewhere.
2 Harvest and protect. Pick winter crops, secure brassica netting and move tender pots out of exposed spots.
3 Build healthy soil. Mulch bare beds, make leafmould and leave safe wildlife refuges over winter.

COMPANION COMBOS

GARLIC + WINTER LETTUCE. Separate or generous shared containers make good use of winter space.
KALE + THYME. Use adjacent pots for diversity; keep thyme well drained.
STRAWBERRIES + CHIVES. Perennial companions for a roomy pot or neighbouring planters.

Note: companion combinations are for space-sharing and diversity, not guaranteed pest protection. Do not plant into frozen or waterlogged ground.

Sources: RHS November grow-your-own; Garden Organic November; RHS vine weevil, slugs and companion planting. Checked 1 November 2026. | patchandpot.app