

Template: Cannabis Harvesting Checklist

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Based on Article: "Harvesting Tips: When and How to Harvest Your Cannabis Plants"
Website: <https://theseedconnect.com>

A practical checklist to ensure successful harvesting of cannabis plants, focusing on timing, techniques, and post-harvest processes.

Checklist Items:

- 1. Inspect Trichome Color**
Use a 30–60x loupe to check trichome colors: clear indicates immaturity, cloudy (milky) indicates peak THC, and amber indicates increasing sedative effects. Sample multiple bud sites for accuracy.
Reference Section: 1–11 Harvesting Tips
- 2. Use Pistil Color as a Secondary Signal**
Monitor pistil colors; aim for about 50–70% browned pistils to confirm that trichomes are properly at peak maturity. Combine this with trichome observations for the best outcome.
Reference Section: 1–11 Harvesting Tips
- 3. Flush Your Plants**
Implement a flushing strategy by using plain water a few days prior to harvest to reduce residual nutrients. For soil, flush for 3–7 days, and for hydro, 1–3 days shorter.
Reference Section: 1–11 Harvesting Tips
- 4. Harvest by Zones**
Consider staggering the harvest to pick top colas first, when trichomes are peak, and wait an additional 3–7 days for lower buds if they're still immature.
Reference Section: 1–11 Harvesting Tips
- 5. Use Clean Cutting Tools**
Ensure that all cutting tools are sterilized with isopropyl alcohol, and use sharp curved scissors to make clean cuts at a 45° angle to minimize damage to the plants.
Reference Section: 1–11 Harvesting Tips
- 6. Choose Drying Method**
Decide whether to hang dry whole branches for better terpene retention or rack dry trimmed buds for quicker throughput. Maintain 60–65°F temperature and 50–55% relative humidity in the drying room.
Reference Section: 1–11 Harvesting Tips
- 7. Trim Buds**
Decide whether to perform a wet trim (which allows for faster drying) or a dry trim (which may preserve trichomes better). Balance your choice based on labor and desired bud quality.
Reference Section: 1–11 Harvesting Tips
- 8. Cure Your Buds**
Place dried buds in airtight jars at around 62% humidity. Burp the jars daily for the first week and then weekly for a month to ensure proper curing.
Reference Section: 1–11 Harvesting Tips

9. Monitor for Mold

Check for signs of mold by inspecting buds for gray fuzzy growth. If mold is detected, separate affected buds, improve airflow, and dry the remaining buds gently.

Reference Section: 1–11 Harvesting Tips

10. Keep Records

Maintain detailed notes including strain, harvest date, trichome state, fresh/dry weight, and observations on drying and curing to improve future harvests.

Reference Section: 1–11 Harvesting Tips