



A COMPANION PLANNER

The Homestead Keeper Planner

A year of planning for your whole homestead.

Plan it on paper. Keep it in the app.

HOMESTEAD KEEPER · HOMESTEADKEEPER.COM

How to Use This Planner

Welcome. This planner helps you plan your whole homestead for the year, from the garden to the animals to the pantry, and makes it easy to keep going once the season gets busy.

You can use it two ways. On its own, it's a complete paper planner, and every page works with a pencil and a few minutes. Alongside the Homestead Keeper app, it's the paper front end. You plan here, then the app keeps the record alive, updates itself, and reminds you what's due.

WHY PLAN YOUR HOMESTEAD?

See the whole year

Know what's coming before the season gets busy.

Nothing slips

Sows, sprays, breedings, and reviews all in one place.

Plan once

Set it up in an afternoon, follow it all year.

Grows with you

Fine on its own, better with the app.

How it's organized

Plan it.

- ☐ **Start with the season.** Set your frost dates and see the whole year at a glance, so everything lands at the right time for where you live.
- ☐ **Then work through the hubs.** A page for each part of your homestead, in the same names the app uses.
- ☐ **Print the templates you need.** Reusable pages like Individual Animal and Crop Planting are meant to be printed as many times as you like.

Dates work from your frost date, not the calendar. Nothing here requires the app, but the app makes it easier.

A Few Words We Use

The planner uses the same words as the Homestead Keeper app, so the two feel like one thing.

Homestead is your whole place, everything you manage.

Place is a named spot on your homestead, like the barn or the root cellar.

Specific Spot is a finer location within a Place, like a nest box wall or row three.

Growing Area is a place you grow food: a bed, a greenhouse, an herb garden.

Crop Planting is one crop you've put in, with its variety, dates, and notes.

Field Log is a quick note that something happened, like fed, pruned, or inspected.

Record is a saved log entry with the details (date, cost, notes).

Timeline is the story of one thing, newest first.

Reminder is a task that's due and comes back on a schedule.

Upcoming Work is what's due soon across a part of your homestead.

Current Status is the living state of something: Active, Sold, Retired.

Lifecycle events is the moments that change an animal's status: Acquired, Born, Weaned, Moved, Sold, Processed, Retired.

The hubs are just the parts of your homestead: Garden, Orchard, Animals, Bees, Property, Equipment, Inventory, Food & Pantry, Off-grid, Weather & Seasons, Wildlife & Pests, Forestry, and Emergency Prep.

THE SEASON

My Homestead at a Glance

Fill this in once at the start of the season and the rest of the planner hangs off it. Once you know your frost dates, you can set them one time in Homestead Keeper and it will work out the seed starting, transplant, and harvest windows for every Crop Planting on its own.

HOMESTEAD NAME

HARDINESS ZONE

AVERAGE LAST SPRING FROST

AVERAGE FIRST FALL FROST

GROWING-SEASON LENGTH

ELEVATION AND NOTES ABOUT YOUR PLACE

MY PLACES (BARN, GARDEN, PASTURE, ROOT CELLAR...)

In the app: set your frost dates once and Homestead Keeper schedules every Crop Planting for you.

The Homestead Year

This walks through the year by season instead of by month, because a homestead in Vermont and one in Georgia are on completely different clocks. Everything is written around your own frost dates, so it lands right wherever you are.

Early Spring *roughly six to ten weeks before your last frost*

The quiet, hopeful stretch. Start your slow crops indoors, like onions, peppers, and tomatoes. Dig out last year's seeds, see what's still good, and note what you're short on in Inventory. Get the dormant pruning finished in the Orchard and put down a dormant oil spray before the trees wake up. If you're growing the flock, order chicks and sketch out your spring breeding. Keep half an eye on the forecast for a late Frost Event.

Late Spring *right around your last frost*

Now it speeds up. Harden off and transplant, direct sow your warm weather crops, and get your first Crop Plantings in the ground. In the Orchard, spray at petal fall and plant any new Fruit Trees. This is baby season too, so you'll be logging births (Born), moving animals out to pasture (Moved), and staying ahead of parasites. Give the hives their first real spring inspection, and eat down last season's stores while you're at it.

Summer

Head down, hands busy. Keep sowing in succession, keep the water on, and start bringing in the first Harvest. Watch for trouble and write down any Pest Sighting or Deer Pressure. The preserving starts in earnest now, with canning, freezing, dehydrating, and fermenting. The animals hit their stride, so your Production climbs, and it's a good time to plan fall breeding.

The Homestead Year *continued*

Late Summer

The big push. Preserve everything that's coming in, get your fall crops going, and save seed from your best plants. On the animal side you're weaning (Weaned) and making your keep or sell calls (Sold). The Orchard fruit comes in now, so weigh your yields. When the shelves fill up, count what you've actually put by (Items Stored).

Fall *before your first frost*

Time to batten down. Bring in the last harvest before that first Frost Event, put the Growing Areas to bed, and get your cover crops in. Breed for spring births and stock up on Feed before the price climbs. Cut, split, and stack your firewood, and walk the trails before the snow flies. Winterize your water lines, your generator, and your buildings, and test the Generator Plan.

Winter

Rest, plan, and fix. Look back at how the year went and lay out next season's Crop Plantings while it's fresh. Get the off season maintenance done on your equipment. Keep the animals warm and watered, and mind the due dates for anything bred to kid or lamb in spring. Do a deep Inventory count, and run through your storm readiness, including your Evacuation Note and contacts.

No hard frost where you live? Anchor to your wet and dry seasons or your local planting windows instead, and this same rhythm still works.

In the app: this same rhythm turns into dated Upcoming Work and gentle reminders, so you're not the one keeping the whole calendar in your head.

This Month on the Homestead

MONTH

YEAR

FOCUS AND GOALS

BY HUB

- ☐ Garden _____
- ☐ Animals _____
- ☐ Orchard _____
- ☐ Food & Pantry _____
- ☐ Inventory _____
- ☐ Other _____

UPCOMING WORK (WHAT'S DUE)

WEATHER AND SEASONS

Rainfall, notable events, frost watch

HARVEST AND WINS

FIELD LOG AND NOTES

☐ Logged this month in Homestead Keeper

Frost-Date and Season Worksheet

Your frost dates drive the whole planting year. Write yours down here, then work every planting back from them. You can find your dates at your local extension office or with a frost date lookup by zip code.

MY ZONE	AVERAGE LAST SPRING FROST	AVERAGE FIRST FALL FROST	DAYS BETWEEN

Count back: your indoor sow date is your last frost minus the weeks a crop needs.

CROP	WEEKS BEFORE LAST FROST	YOUR SOW DATE

In the app: set these once and Homestead Keeper does the counting for you, for every planting.



Garden

Plan, plant, and grow food in your Growing Areas.

Plan it.

- ☐ List your Growing Areas (beds, greenhouse, herb garden) and draw a rough map.
- ☐ Decide what to grow and roughly how much of each.
- ☐ Check your Seeds in Inventory and note what to order.

THIS SEASON'S PLANTINGS

CROP OR PLANT	VARIETY	GROWING AREA	SOW	TRANSPLANT	HARVEST WINDOW

SEASON SUMMARY

TOTAL PLANTINGS

FIRST SOW DATE

FIRST HARVEST

GROWING AREAS IN USE

SEEDS TO ORDER

SUCCESSION CROPS

Through the season: start slow crops indoors in early spring, transplant and direct sow around your last frost, sow in succession and harvest through summer, then put the Growing Areas to bed before your first frost.

In the app: each planting becomes a Crop Planting with its own Timeline, and once your frost dates are set the sow, transplant, and harvest windows drop into Upcoming Work on their own.

Templates for this hub: Crop Planting · Grow Season 20__ Overview.



Animals

Care for animals and track their whole story.

Plan it.

- ☐ List every animal or group you keep, with species, breed, and ID.
- ☐ Lay out your breeding plan and rough due dates for the year.
- ☐ Note who you might sell or cull, and when.

ANIMAL ROSTER

NAME	TYPE	SPECIES & BREED	SEX	EAR TAG / ID	PLACE

HERD AND FLOCK SUMMARY

HEAD COUNT	BIRTHS EXPECTED	NEXT DUE DATE	PLANNED SALES
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Through the season: births come in spring, pasture and production peak through summer, weaning and sell decisions land in late summer, and winter is for cold-weather care and watching due dates for spring.

In the app: every animal gets a Timeline built from the events that matter (Acquired, Born, Weaned, Moved, Sold, Retired), its Current Status updates itself, breeding due dates are worked out for you, and you can export a full record as a clean PDF for a buyer or your vet.

Templates for this hub: Individual Animal · Breeding Record.



Orchard

Fruit and nut trees, from planting to harvest.

Plan it.

- ☐ List your trees, where each one stands, and roughly when it bears.
- ☐ Set your spray and pruning schedule for the year.
- ☐ Plan any new plantings and where they'll go.

TREE INDEX

NAME	TYPE	VARIETY	ROOTSTOCK	PLACE	PLANTED

ORCHARD SUMMARY

NUMBER OF TREES

NEXT SPRAY

NEXT HARVEST

NEW THIS YEAR

Through the season: finish dormant pruning and a dormant oil spray in late winter, spray at petal fall, tend and thin through summer, then harvest and clean up drops in late summer and fall.

In the app: the Field Log actions (Prune, Spray, Harvest, Inspect, Fertilize) live right under each tree, and your sprays and prunings turn into Upcoming Work so you catch the narrow windows.

Templates for this hub: Orchard Planting.



Food & Pantry

What you've canned, frozen, dehydrated, and stored.

Plan it.

- ☐ Set rough goals for the year (how many jars, pounds, or meals).
- ☐ Match what you'll preserve to when it comes in.
- ☐ Note your storage spots (pantry, freezer, root cellar) and what goes where.

PANTRY INVENTORY

ITEM	TYPE	STORAGE SPOT	QUANTITY	DATE PUT UP	BEST BY

PRESERVATION SUMMARY

JARS CANNED

POUNDS FROZEN

BATCHES FERMENTED

DEHYDRATED (LBS)

Through the season: preserve hard through summer and late summer as the harvest rolls in, then draw down the shelves through winter and spring.

In the app: the Field Log actions (Can, Freeze, Dehydrate, Ferment, Store, Use) keep a running count of what's on the shelf, and best by dates warn you before anything turns.

Templates for this hub: Pantry and Preservation.



Property & Equipment

Land, buildings, fences, systems, tractors, and tools.

Plan it.

- ☐ List your buildings, fences, systems, and major equipment.
- ☐ Note purchase dates, warranties, and where you bought each.
- ☐ Set a maintenance schedule (service, inspections, winterizing).

ASSET AND EQUIPMENT LIST

NAME	TYPE	PLACE	ID / TAG	PURCHASED	NEXT SERVICE

MAINTENANCE SUMMARY

ITEMS TRACKED

SERVICE DUE

WARRANTIES EXPIRING

NOTES

Through the season: service mowing and haying gear mid season, and winterize water lines, generators, and buildings before the cold sets in.

In the app: keep the whole service history in one place, attach receipts and the warranty PDF with Pro, and let the maintenance reminders chase you.

Templates for this hub: Equipment and Asset. (In the app these are two hubs, Property and Equipment.)



Inventory

Feed, seeds, medicine, fuel, and supplies on hand.

Plan it.

- ☐ Decide what you always want on hand, and your low-stock level for each.
- ☐ Set a restock cadence (feed before winter, seeds before spring).
- ☐ Note your vendors and rough costs.

COUNT SHEET

ITEM	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	LOW-STOCK AT	PLACE

INVENTORY SUMMARY

ITEMS COUNTED

BELOW LOW-STOCK

EXPIRING SOON

TO REORDER

Through the season: stock feed and bedding before winter, seeds and amendments before spring, and check your animal health supplies before kidding and lambing.

In the app: Inventory flags what's low or expiring under Needs Attention, so a walk-around count becomes a quick glance instead of a chore.

Templates for this hub: Inventory Count Sheet.

HUB



Emergency Prep

Water, food, fuel, first aid, plans, and contacts.

Plan it.

- ☐ Decide how many days of water, food, and fuel you want on hand.
- ☐ Write down your plan (shelter in place, or where you'd go).
- ☐ Keep a current contact list and test your backup power.

PREP CHECKLIST

ITEM	TYPE	LOCATION	QUANTITY	EXPIRATION / REVIEW

KEY CONTACTS

Family, neighbors, vet, power and water companies

🌿 READINESS SUMMARY

DAYS OF WATER

DAYS OF FOOD

FUEL ON HAND

KIT REVIEWED

Through the season: refresh water, food, and fuel in fall before storm season, and test the Generator Plan while the weather is still fair.

In the app: set review dates and they come back around as Upcoming Work, so your kit never quietly expires.

Templates for this hub: Emergency Prep Checklist.

HUB



Bees

Hives, inspections, and honey harvests.

Beekeeping runs on a rhythm of regular inspections. This page is a reminder of the beats. The Hive template is where you log them.

INSPECTION RHYTHM

- ☐ Spring: first inspection, check stores, add supers as they build.
- ☐ Summer: watch for swarming, monitor mites, pull honey when it's capped.
- ☐ Fall: feed as needed, treat for mites, wrap or shelter for winter.
- ☐ Winter: leave them be, heft for stores, clear entrances after storms.

In the app: log each inspection on the hive and let the checks (Hive inspection, Feed check, Mite count) become Upcoming Work.

Template for this hub: Hive.



Off-grid

Solar, water, power, and backup systems.

Off-grid systems are quiet until they aren't. A short maintenance rhythm keeps the lights on and the water running.

MAINTENANCE RHYTHM

- ☐ List your systems (solar array, batteries, well pump, generator, rain catchment).
- ☐ Monthly: a quick check of each system and its readings.
- ☐ Seasonally: service the generator, check battery levels, clean the panels, winterize the water.

In the app: track each system like any other asset, keep its service history, and let the monthly and annual checks turn into reminders.

Template for this hub: Equipment and Asset.



Forestry

Woodlot, firewood, trails, and habitat.

The woodlot is a long game, but firewood is a yearly one, so most of this is about staying ahead of the cold.

YEARLY RHYTHM

- ☐ Cut, split, and stack firewood a season ahead so it's dry when you need it.
- ☐ Walk and clear the trails before winter.
- ☐ Note any tree work, invasive species, or habitat projects.

In the app: set up your Forestry Areas (Woodlot, Firewood Area, Trail, Habitat Project) and log the work with the Field Log so it lands on Upcoming Work.

No dedicated paper template yet. Use a blank note page or the app.



Wildlife & Pests

Sightings, predator pressure, and habitat notes.

Keeping a simple record of what you're seeing helps you spot a pattern before it becomes a problem.

WHAT TO JOT DOWN

- ☐ Pest Sightings (aphids, squash bugs, and the like) and where you saw them.
- ☐ Predator Sightings and any losses.
- ☐ Deer, rodent, and bird pressure through the season.
- ☐ Habitat notes (hedgerows, pollinators, corridors).

In the app: log each one as a record under Wildlife & Pests so you can look back over the season and see the trend.

No dedicated paper template. A blank note page or the app works fine.



Weather & Seasons

Frost dates, rainfall, and seasonal notes.

Your frost dates drive the whole planting year, so this page is mostly about writing them down and tracking what the weather actually does.

WHAT TO TRACK

- ☐ Your average last and first frost (see the Frost-Date and Season Worksheet).
- ☐ Rainfall totals and dry spells.
- ☐ Notable events: storms, a hard freeze, an early or late frost.
- ☐ First and last frost as they actually happen, to sharpen next year's dates.

In the app: log observations as records under Weather & Seasons, and set your frost dates once so the app can schedule your plantings.

See also: the Frost-Date and Season Worksheet in the seasonal section.

REUSABLE TEMPLATES

Print As Many As You Need

The pages that follow are meant to be printed again and again, one per animal, one per planting, one per hive, one per season. Each one matches an add form in Homestead Keeper, so filling it in is the paper version of adding a record. When you're ready, carry it into the app and it keeps the record alive.

Individual Animal

ANIMAL ID / NAME _____
DATE _____

NAME _____		TYPE (INDIVIDUAL, FLOCK, HERD, HIVE, RABBITRY, GUARDIAN, PET) _____	
SPECIES AND BREED _____	SEX _____	DATE OF BIRTH _____	
EAR TAG OR ID _____	COLOR AND MARKINGS _____	PLACE _____	
TIMELINE (DATES)			
ACQUIRED _____	BORN _____	WEANED _____	
MOVED _____	SOLD _____	RETIRED _____	

HEALTH AND WEIGH-IN LOG

DATE	ENTRY	WEIGHT	COST	NOTES

In the app: this lands on the animal's Timeline, its Current Status updates itself, and you can export the full record as a clean PDF for a buyer or your vet.

☐ Logged in Homestead Keeper

PLANTING / BED _____
DATE _____

Crop Planting

CROP OR PLANT		VARIETY
PLANTED IN (GROWING AREA OR PLACE)	SPECIFIC SPOT	SOURCE
SEED START DATE	TRANSPLANT DATE	HARVEST WINDOW

Work your dates from your frost date, not the calendar.

REMINDERS

☐ Watering check

☐ Harvest check

NOTES

In the app: each planting gets its own Timeline, and the sow, transplant, and harvest windows show up as Upcoming Work on their own.

☐ Logged in Homestead Keeper

Orchard Planting

TREE ID / NAME _____

DATE _____

NAME

TYPE (FRUIT TREE, NUT TREE)

VARIETY

ROOTSTOCK

PLANT DATE

PLACE AND SPECIFIC SPOT

CARE LOG

DATE	ACTION (PRUNE, SPRAY, HARVEST, INSPECT, FERTILIZE)	NOTES

In the app: those same Field Log actions live under the tree, and your sprays and prunings become Upcoming Work so you don't miss the window.

☐ Logged in Homestead Keeper

Breeding Record

DAM / GROUP _____
DATE _____

DAM

SIRE

BREEDING DATE

METHOD

STATUS (PLANNED, COMPLETED)

EXPECTED DUE DATE

 GESTATION HELPER (COUNT FROM THE BREEDING DATE)

CHICKEN ~21 DAYS

RABBIT ~31 DAYS

PIG ~114 DAYS

GOAT AND SHEEP ~150 DAYS

COW ~283 DAYS

YOUR DUE DATE

NOTES

In the app: the due date is worked out for you and rides along on the dam's Timeline as it gets close.

☐ Logged in Homestead Keeper

Hive

HIVE NAME _____

DATE _____

HIVE NAME

PLACE AND SPECIFIC SPOT

ID OR TAG

INSTALL DATE

INSPECTION LOG

DATE	BROOD	STORES	QUEEN	MITES	ACTION TAKEN

REMINDERS

- ☐ Hive inspection
- ☐ Feed check
- ☐ Mite count

In the app: log each inspection on the hive and let the checks become Upcoming Work.

- ☐ Logged in Homestead Keeper

ITEM ID / TAG _____

DATE _____

Equipment and Asset

NAME

TYPE

PLACE

BRAND OR MAKE

MODEL

SERIAL NUMBER

PURCHASE DATE

PURCHASE COST

WHERE YOU BUY IT

WARRANTY EXPIRATION

WARRANTY PROVIDER

SERVICE LOG

DATE	SERVICE	HOURS / MILEAGE	PARTS	COST

In the app: keep the service history in one place, attach receipts and the warranty PDF with Pro, and let the reminders chase you.

☐ Logged in Homestead Keeper

ITEM / BATCH _____
DATE _____

Pantry and Preservation

ITEM _____		TYPE (CANNED, FROZEN, DEHYDRATED, FERMENTED, PANTRY, ROOT CELLAR) _____	
STORAGE SPOT _____	QUANTITY AND UNIT _____	DATE PUT UP _____	
BEST BY OR EXPIRATION _____		BATCH AND SOURCE NOTES _____	

USE LOG

DATE	ACTION (STORE / USE)	AMOUNT	NOTES

In the app: the Field Log actions keep a running count of the shelf, and best by dates warn you before anything turns.

☐ Logged in Homestead Keeper

Inventory Count Sheet

LOCATION _____
DATE _____

ITEM	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	UNIT	LOW-STOCK AT	PLACE	NOTES

In the app: Inventory flags what's low or expiring, so the count becomes a quick check instead of a chore.

☐ Logged in Homestead Keeper

HOUSEHOLD _____
DATE _____

Emergency Prep Checklist

ITEM	TYPE	LOCATION	QUANTITY	EXPIRATION / REVIEW

CONTACTS

- ☐ Supply inventory check
- ☐ Rotate and replenish

In the app: set review dates and they come back around as Upcoming Work, so your kit never quietly expires.

- ☐ Logged in Homestead Keeper

SEASON / YEAR _____

ZONE _____

Grow Season 20____

Overview

SEASON AND YEAR

LAST SPRING FROST

FIRST FALL FROST

GOALS FOR THE SEASON

THIS SEASON'S PLANTINGS

CROP	VARIETY	GROWING AREA	SOW	TRANSPLANT	HARVEST WINDOW

WHAT WORKED, WHAT TO CHANGE

In the app: every row here can become a Crop Planting, and the season fills in your Garden Timeline and Upcoming Work.

☐ Logged in Homestead Keeper

Take It Further with Homestead Keeper

You've planned your year on paper. Homestead Keeper keeps it alive. Everything in this planner maps straight to the app, in the same words, so nothing feels new when you open it.

WHAT THE APP DOES THAT PAPER CAN'T

- **It schedules your garden for you.** Set your frost dates once and every Crop Planting gets its windows worked out and dropped into Upcoming Work.
- **It remembers so you don't have to.** Care, sprays, service, and reviews come back around as reminders.
- **It keeps each thing's whole story.** Every animal, planting, and tool gets a Timeline, and an animal's Current Status updates itself.
- **It hands you clean records.** Export an animal's full record, or a season's, as a tidy PDF for a buyer or your vet (with Pro).
- **It counts your shelves and bins.** Inventory and Food & Pantry warn you before you run low or something expires.



Start your Homestead

Scan the code or visit homesteadkeeper.com. Plan it here, keep it there.