

STOCK

Stock & Inventory Guide

Harvest baskets, storage, store-bought goods, and recipes

How stock works

Everything you have on hand lives in Stock, whatever its origin. Three things feed into it:

- Harvests from your garden and animals, which arrive through a basket.
- Store-bought items you enter directly.
- Things you made from other stock, by processing or following a recipe.

Harvesting is deliberately a two-step process. You collect first, adding everything you picked to a basket, then receive the basket into storage in one go. That matches how the work actually happens — you do not want to stop and pick a freezer shelf for every handful of beans.

Add your storage locations before your first harvest. Receiving a basket needs somewhere to put things.

Storage locations

Open Stock from the Menu. The Storage Locations panel lists everywhere you keep things. Use Add Location to create one.

Name	Chest freezer, pantry, root cellar, spare fridge.
Active	Leave ticked for somewhere in use. Untick a location that is out of service and it stops being offered when you receive goods.
Notes	Anything worth recording about the space.

Locations can be edited or deleted from the same panel.

Recording a harvest

Go to Menu, then Harvest. The form opens over whatever page you were on.

- 1 Choose whether this came from a Plant or an Animal.
- 2 For a plant, choose the bed, then the planting. For an animal, choose the species, then the animal.
- 3 Choose the produce.
- 4 Enter the quantity and the unit of measure.
- 5 Optionally add a display name, a quality grade, and notes.
- 6 Check the date and time, which default to now, and save.

The line is added to your open basket. Repeat for everything else you picked — the basket holds as many lines as you need, across as many trips as you like. Quantities and units can be corrected on the lines already in the basket, individual lines can be deleted, and the whole basket can be cleared.

Receiving the basket into storage

Nothing counts as stock until the basket is received. The Home dashboard shows how many lines are waiting along with a shortcut to receive them all.

When you receive, you set:

Storage location	Where it is going. Required. You can send different lines to different places.
Storage method	Optional free text — freezer, pantry shelf, vacuum seal, canned.
Received at	Defaults to now.

Once received, the lines become stock: searchable, usable in recipes, and tracked for expiry. Produce that has a shelf life set on its type gets an expiration date automatically, which is what drives the recipe suggestions on your dashboard.

Adding store-bought items

Not everything is grown. Use Add Store-Bought Item on the Stock page for anything you bought.

Raw or processed	Which kind of good this is.
Product name	What it is.
Quantity and unit	How much you have.
Storage location	Where you put it.
Storage method	Optional detail about how it is kept.
Received	When you got it.
Expiration	The date on the packet. Worth entering — it feeds the recipe suggestions.
Lot code	For anything you might need to trace.
Notes	Brand, price, where you bought it.

Store-bought items sit alongside your own produce and are marked as purchased so you can tell them apart.

Reading and editing the stock table

Aggregated Stock is the main table on the Stock page. Each row shows the amount on hand, the produce, the unit, the location, the method, its state, and whether it was purchased.

You can correct a row in place without opening a form. Click the quantity, unit, location, or purchased box, make the change, and a Save button appears on that row. This is the quickest way to reconcile after you have used something without recording it.

To find things:

- Type in the Search box to match produce, processed goods, recipes, or ingredients, then choose Apply. Reset clears it.
- Use the tick boxes to show or hide raw goods, processed goods, purchased goods, and recipes.
- Use the row count buttons to show more rows at once if you have a lot of stock.

Full history

Full History, from the card at the top of the Stock page, is the complete log of stock movements — what changed, when, how much, where it went, and where it came from.

Use it to answer questions the current stock table cannot, such as how much you picked across the whole season. Entries can be deleted if something was recorded in error.

Recipes and processing instructions

A recipe in Homestead Central is a saved set of instructions for turning some of your stock into something else — milk into cheese, cucumbers into pickles, a meal out of several ingredients.

Use Add Recipe / Processing Instructions, from the card at the top of the page or the button beside the recipe list.

- 1 Under Ingredients Used, list what goes in and how much of each.
- 2 Give the result a product name.
- 3 Set how much it yields, and in what unit.
- 4 Choose a processing method, or add a new one.
- 5 Add a quality grade and notes if useful.
- 6 Choose Save.

Saving a recipe does not change your stock. It only writes down the method, ready to use whenever you want it.

Making a recipe

Saved recipes are listed under Recipes & Processing Instructions with their yield and method. Click one to open it, check the ingredients and instructions, then choose Make Recipe / Process Item.

That single action takes the ingredients out of your stock and puts the finished product in, in the right quantity and the right location. Your stock stays accurate without you having to adjust both sides by hand.

Recipes can be deleted from the list. Deleting one has no effect on your inventory — it only removes the instructions.

How stock reaches your dashboard

Expiration dates are the link back to Home. The Recipe Suggestions panel looks at what is closest to expiring and lists the saved recipes that would use it up, so food gets eaten rather than thrown out.

Two things make those suggestions better: entering expiration dates on store-bought goods, and setting a default shelf life on the produce types you harvest regularly. You can choose whether suggestions follow the next seven days, the three closest items, or both, in Settings.

Tips

- Set up storage locations before anything else in this app.
- Keep the basket open while you work and receive it once at the end.
- Enter expiration dates. Nearly everything useful about the suggestions depends on them.
- Use the inline edits on the stock table for small corrections rather than a full adjustment form.
- Save a recipe the first time you make something, even roughly. The second time it makes the whole job one click.