Selections from DigThis newsletter Companion planting

Companion planting is the practice of planting two or more plants together for mutual benefit.

- Shelter - larger plants protect others from wind or too much sun.
- Support - Some vegetables can be used as physical supports for others. For example, pole beans with corn use the corn as a trellis.

Beneficial Insects - attracting beneficial insects such as bees help spread pollen.

- Soil Improvement - some vegetables improve soil conditions for other plants. Members of the legume family (beans etc.) draw nitrogen from the atmosphere and add it to the soil around them.

Decoy Plants - these are plants that emit odors that aid in masking the odors of insectdesirable vegetable plants.
Use this chart as a guide, and modify it as you find what works (or doesn't work) in your own garden.


