

A Guide to Planting Your Flowers

Get the best
display of flowers

Quick Tips

We have sent your plants at just the right time for planting out or potting on. Please read the relevant instructions on this leaflet to ensure the best establishment and ongoing performance in your garden.

- Open packaging immediately on receipt and stand upright where appropriate.
- If plants seem dry, place roots in a tray of water for half an hour (does not apply to dry bulb products).
- When growing in containers, don't fill to the brim with compost. Leave up to 2.5cm (1in) of pot on show to allow for watering - leave 12mm (½ in) for small pots and cell trays.
- Pots should always have drainage holes, but place on saucers through summer for water retention.
- Always water prior to planting or potting on.
- Prepare soils well ahead of planting – dig in compost and slow release fertiliser, breaking the soil down to a crumbly texture.
- Avoid planting when soils are too wet or frozen.
- Acclimatise all indoor grown plants to outside conditions after the last frost. Harden off by placing outside by day and back undercover each evening for 7-10 days.



Plug Plants: Summer and winter/spring bedding: Our summer flowering plugs are best grown on in warm conditions before setting outside after the last frost. The optimum temperature is 10-15°C. Slightly cooler temps will slow down growth but keep it compact. Warmer temps will make plants grow faster but can cause them to become leggy and weak.

As soon as possible upon receipt, ease each plug from its tray, handling by the leaves, not stem. Set individually into 7cm (3in) pots or large cell trays filled with incredicompost®. Pinch the compost around the plugs to firm in. To water and settle, place in a tray of water until compost darkens then allow to drain. Allow the compost surface to dry between watering.

If growing on the windowsill, turn plants regularly to prevent them stretching towards the light. Most annual bedding plants respond well to pinching out: remove growing tips above the 3rd or 4th leaf to encourage side shoots and more flowers through the season. Plants should not need feeding for 4 weeks after potting. At this stage pot on again or plant out (if conditions allow). We recommend the use of incredibloom® at this stage. Just one application at planting time will provide everything your plants need for the full season ahead. Harden off for 7-10 days ready for planting out after the last frost.

Autumn and winter bedding plugs should be grown the same way, acclimatised ready for planting out in September/October.

5cm (2in) pots: These should be potted on into 9cm (3½in) pots filled with incredicompost® and grown on until they establish strong roots.

9cm (3½in) pots: Grow on for planting out or potting on anytime between April and September.

1 litre pots and larger: These mature plants can be planted out or potted on into larger patio containers at any time of year but watch out for late spring frosts in their first year in your garden.

Perennials: Treat as described for bedding. Harden off and plant out when roots can be seen through drainage holes.

Visit the gardening information section on our website for a wealth of content to help you get the very best from your new garden additions.



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