

GARDENIAS...

Gardenias are loved for their wonderful fragrant white flowers and glossy green foliage. To grow a Gardenia successfully, there are a few basic steps to follow to ensure success.

Gardenias prefer a semi-shade position and a rich, organically improved soil that is slightly acidic. Plant Gardenias in a raised, well drained position or best quality Potting Mix that will ensure good drainage. They like regular feeding and regular watering in the warmer months. It is much better to water Gardenias for 10 seconds a day (over the foliage to increase humidity) rather than water for 10 minutes once a week.

Feeding is crucial. Gardenias always come out of our Winter nutrient deficient (skinny and miserable), and so it is important to feed them regularly through Spring. We recommend monthly feeding with Harry's Gardenia Food which is a specialist fertilizer that is ideal for Gardenias. If using our organic based All Purpose Plant Food, add Magnesium Sulphate for the Spring feeds to ensure that the food is taken up effectively by the Gardenias. By the time their main flowering takes place in November/December, your Gardenia needs to be "fat and happy" or it will drop its flower buds. In Summer and Autumn, feed your Gardenias every 6 weeks. A good Gardenia will usually spot flower from October to June.

Gardenias are great in tubs or the garden and look good all year round. Remember, a little spoiling goes a long way towards a healthy, beautiful Gardenia.



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