

HANGING BASKET & PLANTER CARE GUIDE

LOCATION

Where Do I Put My

Hanging Basket/Planter?

This is all dependent on how much light you have in your yard and how much light your plants require. Some baskets/planters require full sun, while others require more shade. Make sure your full sun planters get at least 6 hours of direct sunlight per day. Ideally if your planter requires sun, place them in a south facing position. If your planters require shade, place them in a north-facing location, perhaps shaded by a tree or overhang. If you're not sure what kind of light the plants require, look at the tags in the pot for more information.

-  Full Sun- more than 6 hours
-  Part Sun- 4-6 hours
-  Shade- less than 4 hours



Helpful Tip

Water in the morning to allow the roots to soak up the water when the sun is hot during the day

WATER

How Do I Water My

Hanging Basket/Planter?

Watering is one of the most important parts of plant care. When watering lift the basket to feel the weight or touch the soil inside the basket/planter for moisture when watering. If it is light and lifts easily or if the soil feels dry, water the flowers until water runs through the holes beneath the pot. On cool, cloudy, or rainy days or weeks, your hanging baskets may not require daily watering. During the hot summer months, you may need to water your baskets once (or twice!) per day. If your basket has completely dried out and the soil is crumbly and cracked, you will need to water several times to saturate the soil and allow the plants to absorb moisture again. If the plants are drooping and the soil is very dry, simply soak the hanging basket in water for 30 minutes to an hour before rehang it. Early spring, when your plants are smaller and the temperatures are lower, you may only need to water every 3 or 4 days. Be prepared to water the plants every day as they grow larger and the weather warms.

Watering on a schedule may be tempting, but it is best to water only when your plants require it. Check the soil moisture in your baskets at least once a day, rather than waiting for the plants to wilt. When plants wilt that means they are stressed, so watering before the soil gets that dry is better for your plants. An alternative to watering on a hot day is to put a quart of ice cubes on top of the soil to let it slowly melt in.

Helpful Tip

Planning a vacation? Consider using a self-watering system, such as a bottle or bulb. As the soil dries out, these tools add water to it.

SHAPING

How Do I Keep My Flowers Looking Great?

Even if you do everything correctly, hanging baskets and planters can become stretched or open looking over time. If this occurs, trim your basket/planter in the middle to late summer. Simply take a sharp pair of scissors or shears and trim a few inches off the entire basket, similar to how you would get your hair trimmed. It is up to you how much you cut off; a light trim of an inch or two is usually plenty, but there are times when a larger trim might be good. If you have any long trailing pieces that you don't like, cut them off. Giving the basket/planter a haircut will take some flowers away, but it will increase branching, tighten the habit, and help the basket look good in the long run. Your flowers should return within a few days to a week, and your plant, given enough fertilizer, should begin to grow more vigorously again.

PRUNING

Another important aspect of flower basket care is pruning. Cut back spent flowers and branches to encourage new growth and re-blooming in your basket/planter. This keeps the plant looking full and prevents seed production. Inspect your basket/planter once a week and remove any dead or fading flowers or brown leaves. Remove any plant parts that appear to be dead, brown, or damaged. This will encourage new growth and more blooms, making your plants look lush and full of blooms all summer.

Helpful Tip

Ask us about using Protilizer (probiotics for plants) in addition to fertilizer to grow stronger roots and reduce plant loss



Helpful Tip

Make sure your scissors are sanitized before trimming your plants. This helps limit the spread of diseases and bacteria.

Fertilizer Recommendations

Jack's Classic All Purpose
20-20-20

Jack's Classic Acid Special
17-6-6
for Ferns and Palms

FERTILIZING

How Do I Fertilize My Hanging Basket/Planter?

After water, fertilizer is the most important thing to keep your plants thriving. Fertilizing every 7 to 10 days is key to ensuring a healthy basket and plant growth. Your plants need nutrients to grow and bloom during the growing season. There are many different types of fertilizers, including water soluble and slow release pellets that can be sprinkled on top of the soil before watering. It is best to fertilize your plant when it is due for a watering. Your container plants will only get nutrition if you feed them. To avoid damaging your plants, always follow the directions on the fertilizer package. The next time you water after trimming back your plant, use a water-soluble plant food. This will quickly provide an energy boost to your plant and kickstart new growth and branching. Your basket will be looking better than ever in no time.