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How to Grow Jasmine: The Complete Jasmine Flower Guide



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Planting, Growing, and Caring For Jasmine Flowers

By [Catherine Boeckmann](#)
Last Updated: March 27, 2025




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The sweetly-scented jasmine flower can fill a room or a garden with its heady scent.

Though jasmine is a vine usually grown outdoors, some varieties can also be grown as houseplants. There is some confusion regarding jasmine and which variety is fragrant.

Read more about growing jasmine.

Jasmine can be pruned as a shrub near the house or a walk so that its intense fragrance can be enjoyed by passersby as well as the hummingbirds and butterflies that are drawn to the flowers. The genus *Jasminum* contains more than 200 vines and shrubs.

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Types of Jasmine

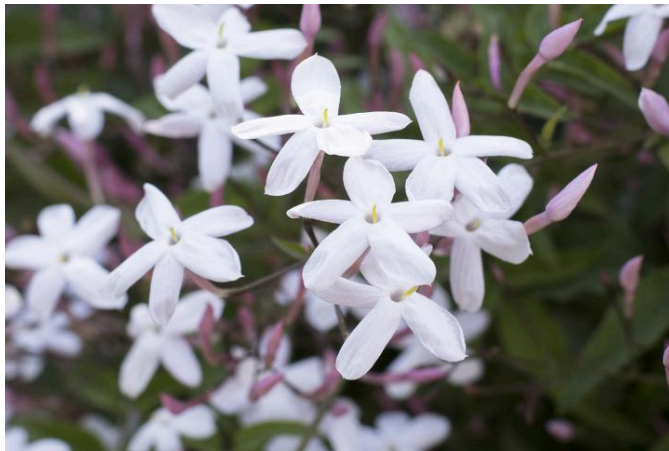
Common jasmine or Poet's jasmine

(*Jasminum officinale*), also called True Jasmine, is a deciduous vine with clusters of starry, pure-white flowers that bloom all summer. It's a twining climber with rich green leaves that have five to nine leaflets, each up to 2½ inches long. The very fragrant flowers are up to 1 inch in diameter.

Hardy to zone 7, the vine grows vigorously (1 to 2 feet per year, up to 20 feet) and looks

can also be pruned as a shrub near the house or near a walk so its intense fragrance can be enjoyed and so you can watch hummingbirds and butterflies come to the flowers. Common Jasmine is native to Asia.

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Winter jasmine (*Jasminum nudiflorum*) is an “old-timey” shrub often found around Victorian homes. The beautiful yellow flowers

fold. Winter jasmine is a good bank cover that will spread by rooting where the stems touch the soil. It is also very attractive when planted above retaining walls, with the branches cascading over the side. Hummingbirds love this vigorous vine!

Most other *Jasminum* species are semi-tropical vines, which are best planted in the spring after the danger of frost has passed.

Not a True Jasmine

[Star jasmine](#) or Confederate jasmine look similar but are not true jasmines. It is actually native to China and is known scientifically as *Trachelospermum jasminoides*. Hardy in USDA plant hardiness zones 7B through 10, the phlox-like flowers bloom on twining stems in spring and summer and are highly scented.

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Star Jasmine, *Trachelospermum
jasminoides*

Read Next

- [Having a Vine Time with Perennial Vines](#)
- [How to Grow a Clematis Vine](#)
- [Clematis Varieties: From Climbing Vines to Bush Types](#)

PLANTING

- All summer-flowering jasmines prefer full sun to partial shade; winter or early spring bloomers do fine in partial shade. The ideal planting position should be warm, sunny, and sheltered.
- Jasmines have few soil requirements: They like moderately fertile, loamy, sandy, and moisture-retaining yet well-draining soil with a moderately acidic, alkaline, or

ger of frost is passed.

- Plant in-ground anytime from June to November. Dig only so deep that the plant crown is level with the soil surface. Container plants are best planted in the fall.
- If grown as a twining vine, jasmine will need to be supported on an arbor or trellis.
- As a shrub, jasmine can get lanky and semi-vining, so it needs frequent pruning. Common jasmine grows to a height of 10 to 15 feet as a lanky, semi-vining shrub, growing 12 to 24 inches a year. Winter jasmine shrubs grow to 4 feet high and 7 feet wide.
- If you're going to grow jasmine as a shrub border, you can set them at least 8 feet apart.

Jasmine as a Houseplant

- Place in a partly sunny spot to encourage robust growth. Indoors, space near a window and provide a trellis or support. Place soon-to-bloom jasmine in a partly sunny spot. After it blooms, place it near a south-facing window.
- Indoors, jasmine needs to stay cool with well-circulated air. Try to keep the tem-

- Humidity is important. Set the plant pot on a tray of pebbles or gravel; add water to the top of the stones. Run a humidifier, if possible.
- Water only when the top inch of potting mix is dry to the touch.
- Plant jasmine in porous material as well as bark, peat, and other soil that drains well. Soil needs to be moist but not soggy.

GROWING

- Tie the vine's stems to a fairly heavy support.
- Pinch the tips to stimulate lateral growth and prune after flowering if necessary to restrain growth.
- If the vine is grown as a groundcover, trim the upward-twining stems. Additional plants can be propagated from stem cuttings.
- Water once per week, increasing frequency or volume during dry periods. During the summer, allow the soil to be moist and let it dry between waterings. Water less in fall. In winter and spring months, keep the plant slightly dry.
- Prune out thin, old shoots after flowering (which is spring) to shape the plant.

- Jasmine plants like water. The soil should always be slightly moist, but not soggy.
- Fertilize jasmine twice a year with fertilizer that is rich in potassium and phosphorus. During the growing season of spring and summer, liquid fertilizer can be fed to the plant every few weeks.
- Keep jasmine under control with proper pruning, especially at the beginning of spring. Remember, jasmine is a climbing vine!
- Repot in springtime. Prune the roots when moving to fresh soil, as needed.

Types

- The Jasmine cultivar 'Argenteovariegatum' with cream-white variegation on the leaves, has gained the Royal Horticultural Society's Award of Garden Merit. It's cold-hardy, deer-resistant, and smells heavenly. In June, a massive display of pink buds opens to powerfully fragrant sugar-white flowers. Bloom continues through August. Very pretty multidimensional vine for a large pergola, fence, or very large trellis. The flowers are most fragrant in the evenings and morning. Very stable variegation. Adaptable to full sun to dappled shade. Light summer water in rich to aver-

mer water speeds growth and establishment in the first summer.

- If you're growing jasmine as a houseplant, *Jasminum polyanthum* is the variety commonly used when growing jasmine indoors. It has a sweet aroma, especially in the evening.

GARDENING PRODUCTS



PESTS/DISEASES

- Common jasmine is relatively problem free, pest free, and disease free.
- Winter jasmine can be affected by spider mites. If this happens, cut them to the ground after blooming and discard the infested plant material. Feed the crowns to

- Yellowish leaves indicate the need for fertilizer, which should be applied in spring.
- For houseplants, look out for mealybugs (white, cottony masses under leaves and on stems). To remove, use a cotton swab dipped in alcohol.

WIT AND WISDOM

- In Hawaii, jasmine and ginger blossoms are often used in leis to celebrate Lei Day on May 1.
- Jasmine's scent is thought to be calming and soothing.
- The essential oil of *Jasminum officinale* is known as the 'King of Oils' and has been used to aide the quality of sleep, reduce anxiety, and reduce depression.
- It's also an age-old herbal medicine and healing agent that has been used for anti-septic or anti-inflammatory powers.

FLOWERS

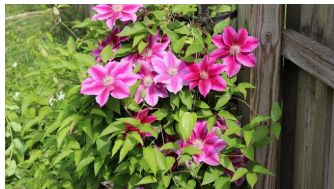
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Catherine Boeckmann



Catherine Boeckmann loves nature, stargazing, and gardening so it's not surprising that she and The Old Farmer's Almanac found each other. She leads digital content for the Almanac website, and is also a certified master gardener in the state of Indiana. [Read More from Catherine Boeckmann](#)

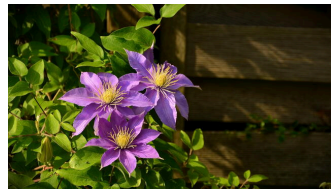
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COMMENTS

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Sue Kosier (not verified) 1 year 6 months ago

I have a inside jasmine tree i have had it for years we moved a year ago & it has not done well I have in a south west window with lots of sun the leafs are turning yellow & dropping I have feed it.I'm afraid to trim it.Please help I do not want to lose it!!!

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REPLY**The Editors** 1 year 6 months ago

Hi Sue,

Sorry to hear about your jasmine plant.

There are a number of reasons why your jasmine has yellow leaves that are dropping. Too much or too little water can be an issue, as can soil that does not drain well. It is best to create a schedule for watering and make sure not to water too often.

Your plant also may lack key nutrients in the soil. You might want to test the pH of your soil to see what your plant needs. A lack of nitrogen can cause yellowing leaves. If you have not done so recently, you could also repot it to give the roots fresh soil. The best time to repot is in the spring.

Exposing your jasmine to too much sun can also cause leaves to yellow. You want it to be in a location that gets partial sun.

part of the natural aging process. But
don't be too alarmed because jasmine can
lose its leaves in the fall.

REPLY

Madison (not verified) 3 years 1 month ago

Would you know where I could find common jasmine seeds? I am having a difficult time tracking them down.

REPLY

Amanda Rossi (not verified) 3 years 1 month ago

Go to Etsy. They have everything

REPLY

joe (not verified) 4 years 1 month ago

I have a couple of 20W LED corn bulbs that I used to use to QC paint jobs, and I bought a 100 LED grow light to make a grow station. I plan to use it to get my cucumbers big enough before transplant to defeat The Evil Powdery Mildew that's plagued me

showy and fragrant flowers after planting time hits.

Will jasmine do okay under bright lights with cool conditions? It's in a basement. Thanks!

REPLY

Emily Fredrickson (not verified) 4 years 3

months ago

Hi! I was wondering if anyone knew of any good uses for the jasmine flower or any other parts of the plant as I have a large supply of them dried. I have been putting them in my tea, but I have so many that I would like to know if there any better uses. Also, does anyone know of the benefits of eating this plant? I found some stuff on the internet and not a lot of it is proven, but I would trust a testimonial. Best wishes!

REPLY

Valerie (not verified) 2 years 10 months

ago

I collect them for my daughter. She makes soaps, balms, essential oils, teas, perfume among other things. Having the plant is good for both of us. Hope this helps.

The Editors 4 years 3 months ago

Hi Emily, To chip in here ... Note that only *jasmine officinale* is edible. If you live in the South do not mistake “Carolina Jasmine” for real Jasmine. It is “false Jasmine” aka *Gelsemium Sempervirens* and considered too poisonous for human consumption.

We like making sachets of dried flowers.

[Here's how to make sachets.](#)

The edible flowers of *jasmine officinale* are intensely fragrant and are traditionally used for scenting tea, as you know. In North America, jasmine is rarely used in foods however, you'll see it in Thai cuisine and especially in seafood dishes. Jasmine flower is also use to make sweet syrups for desserts. [See recipes from yummlly](#), a popular recipe site.

REPLY

Kris (not verified) 4 years 8 months ago

We would like to put a garden container on a second story porch to let the plants spill over and

Can jasmine vines climb down instead of up? Any
vine, as a matter of fact.

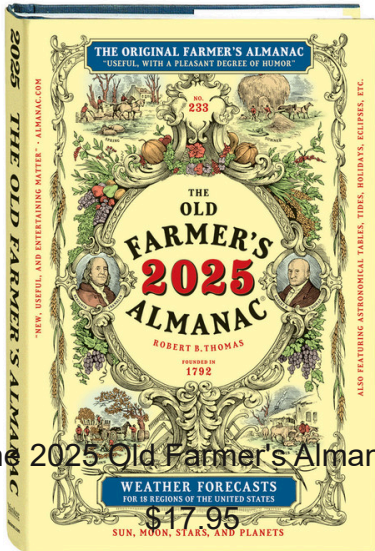
REPLY

Joy Skinner (not verified) 1 month 4
weeks ago
I would like to read about this too

REPLY

MORE COMMENTS

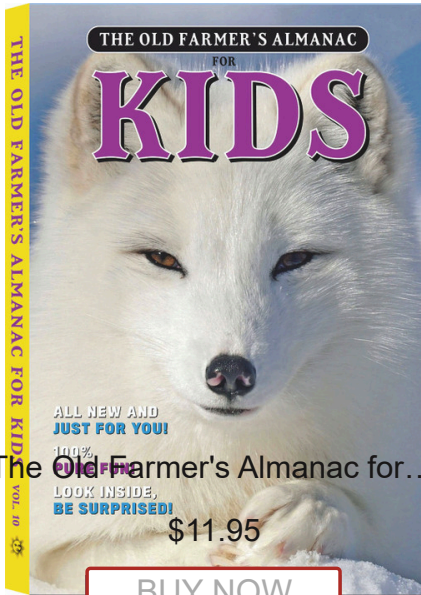
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