

URBAN FARMER

LOVE THE EARTH

From Seed to Harvest: A beginner's guide to growing Daisies

Daisies are a member of the aster family and grow as perennials. Commonly, daisies are thought of having the old-fashioned blooms of white petals with a yellow center, but daisies can grow in all **shapes, sizes** and **colors**.

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To plant:

Daisies are planted by seeds or by divisions. Daisy flowers can be seeded directly into the garden but if this is done, don't expect blooms until the following spring. To plant the seeds, loosen the soil and plant seeds 1/8 inch deep. The seeds can be planted even when a light frost may still occur. Seeds should germinate in up to 20 days.

To grow:

Once established, Daisies require little care. Daisies grow well in clumps, and make sure they receive at least 1 inch of water per week. Add mulch to control weeds and retain moisture. Since Daisies can grow very tall, sometimes staking is necessary to prevent wind damage. Daisies also can support themselves if planted close together, or they can be planted along a fence row for more protection. To keep strong plants, divide the daisies every three to four years. To encourage the most growth, deadhead spent blooms. Once blooms finally fade, usually in mid-fall, cut the Daisies back to the ground. To prevent disease, do not overhead water the Daisies.

To harvest:

Daisies will bloom until fall. Because of their long, strong stems, they make great cut flowers. Once Daisies bloom once, Shasta



Painted Daisy seeds available at ufseeds.com

Daisies might put out new, fresh leaves and bloom again before the end of the fall.

Daisy seeds can be harvested, too. Wait for the flowers to dry out and, if harvesting the seeds, do not deadhead the blooms. Cut the flowers and hang them upside down to dry. Seeds are kept in the Daisy heads. Once the flowers have dried, crush the heads and remove the seeds.

What Daisies crave:

If planted by seed, wait a full year's growth and then use an all-purpose fertilizer in the early spring. Just prior to blooming, fertilize the Daisies with a fertilizer that is high in phosphorous, which will enhance the blooming period and produce better flowers.

If growing in containers, use a slow-acting fertilizer upon planting and then fertilize with a diluted liquid fertilizer each time you water.



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Where to buy Daisy seeds:

Urban Farmer sells different kinds of Daisy seeds that bloom in a variety of bright colors.

Check out our Daisy seed selection on our website at ufseeds.com!



Gloriosa Daisy seeds available at ufseeds.com



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