

HOW TO GROW CHRYSANTHEMUMS

Chrysanthemum belongs to the Asteraceae family of about 40 species of flowering plants especially common in East Asia that can often be seen in artworks and ornaments. They are classified as perennial herbs or subshrubs. Some have both disc and ray flowers in the heads that come in various forms such as pompons, buttons or daisy-like and shapes and sizes. It is popularly cultivated as herbal tea with its long history of use in traditional Chinese medicine known to treat fevers, headaches, hypertension and inflammation. Growing chrysanthemums can be very rewarding no matter as an added attraction in your lovely gardens or to cultivate as reserve for natural herbal medicine.

Planting Procedure:

Step 1: Preparing to Plant

- A. Choose a Suitable Location. Chrysanthemums thrive in morning sun and can receive 5-6 hours of full sunlight in a day.
- B. Chrysanthemums require well-drained and fertile soil that has good air circulation.
- C. Chrysanthemums must be sheltered from the wind either placing them along a fence or adding a layer of mulch over the soil..
- D. Maintain a certain distance about 18-24 inches apart between chrysanthemum plants.



Step 2: Growing Chrysanthemums from Seeds

- A. Buy some seeds from garden centre.
- B. Put well-draining potting mix in seed germination trays.
- C. Place 2-3 seeds into each cell of the germination tray.
- D. Pour a fine layer of soil over the seeds.
- E. Use spray bottle to add fine mist over the soil to make it damp.
- F. Tap the soil down gently with your fingers to make sure the seeds are embedded in the soil, if not, strong wind or water may blow them away.
- G. Find a sunny, bright spot for the seed tray. Germination process would be faster if the soil is warm.
- H. Check the soil whether it's moist or not but careful not to overwater it.
- I. When the stems grow roughly 3 inches, you can move them to separate pots for the roots to have more room to grow.
- J. Make chrysanthemums more stable by dipping the cuttings into rooting hormone mix before placing them in pots.



Step 3: Transferring Potted Chrysanthemums

- A. After the frost is over, you may transfer chrysanthemums from the pot into the ground.
- B. Dig a hole twice the size of the plant's roots to make sure there's plenty of room for the roots to grow.
- C. If you're planting several chrysanthemums, place them around 18-24 inches apart for the roots to grow and spread.
- D. Fill up the empty spaces with fresh soil to cover the roots.
- E. Water the plants at least once a week.
- F. Feed the plants liquid fertilizer every 4-6 weeks.

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