

HOW TO GROW HYDRANGEAS IN A POT

Hydrangea is native to Asia and Americas with most diverse species in eastern Asia specifically China, Korea and Japan. They are classified as either deciduous or evergreen which are popular ornamental garden plants for seasoned gardener. They are hardy, easy-to-grow colorful shrubs of blue, pink, maroon, red and even light green are ideally placed in patios, porches, balconies and entrances of houses.

Planting Procedure:

Step 1: Potting Hydrangeas

- A. Choose a specific variety of hydrangeas preferably dwarf hydrangeas which tend to grow well in pots and do not require as much space unlike other varieties.
- B. Select a pot that has several drainage holes in the bottom with size range of 15-18 inches. This is to ensure proper drainage of water.
- C. Spread some broken pieces of pottery or stones at the bottom of the pot to improve drainage and prevent root rot.
- D. Add some potting mix specifically for shrubs that would include slow-release fertilizer to make hydrangeas grow well.



- E. Use a small trowel to loosen the root ball and transfer it to the new pot.
- F. Fill in the pot with potting mix to about 2 inches below the rim.
- G. Pack down the soil around the base of the shrub with your hands or with garden trowel.
- H. Thoroughly water the pot until it fills to the rim, drain it then repeat the procedure to help the hydrangea settle into the new soil.

Step 2: Care for Hydrangeas

- A. Select a location that receives partial sun with morning sun and afternoon shade for the potted hydrangeas. During summer, you have to place them in shady spots to avoid soil drying out quickly.
- B. Daily monitoring of soil moisture by sticking in your finger into the soil. Avoid soil drying out completely.
- C. Water hydrangeas whenever the soil feels dry. If hydrangeas are starting to wilt or becoming floppy, these are signs that you need to water them. They require twice a week up to daily watering from spring through summer.



D. Use a pair of pruning shears to snip off wilting and dead flower heads just above the leaves. Deadheading the plant can ensure maximum blooming next time.

E. During winter, it is best to move the hydrangeas inside a covered area or in a greenhouse before temperature freeze.

F. Don't ever fertilize hydrangeas at the end of summer. This can cause spurts of new growth after the growing season, which can get damaged during the winter. It is best to fertilize right before or at the beginning of the growing season.

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