



Caring for your Hanging Basket

Keeping hanging baskets beautiful!

**What you'll need: Flowering Hanging Basket
Fertilome 20-20-20 Plant Food**

Optional: Osmocote 14-14-14 Plant Food



Step 1: Choose sun or shade. Be sure to choose a basket that will do well in the location it will be hanging. Most baskets do well in sun, while others do best in shade or part shade. Shade loving flowers include begonias, fuchsias, coleus, and impatiens.

Step 2: Water often! Water until the water begins draining out of the holes in the bottom of the basket. Most hanging baskets will require daily watering when the weather is hot. They dry out MUCH faster than flowers planted in the ground or even in planters.

Baskets in the shade will probably not require watering as often. Lift the basket to feel how heavy it is. If it is heavy it is probably wet. If it is light it needs water.

If the container dries out too much the soil might shrink from the sides of the pot. Go around the edge of the pot pushing soil into the void with your thumbs, so that the water doesn't just run down the sides and out the bottom. Then water it several times to re-soak the soil mix.

Step 3: Feed weekly! Feed with *Fertilome 20-20-20 Water Soluble Plant Food* every week. Because hanging baskets are watered so often they require more frequent feedings. Feeding is critical to keep your baskets blooming beautifully all season long.

Optional: For even better results, also feed once with Osmocote 14-14-14 Plant Food when you first purchase your hanging basket. This will feed your plants all season long, but it should be in addition to the weekly feed mentioned above.

Step 4: Prune off spent flowers. Every week or two, pick off spent flowers. This is not required, but will keep your baskets looking fresh and vibrant.

Step 5: Enjoy. Following these simple steps will result in beautiful flowering baskets that you will enjoy all summer long.

(See reverse side for how to plant your own planters and baskets)

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Town & Country Gardens, Inc.

5800 S. Yellowstone Hwy. ▪ Idaho Falls, ID 83402 ▪ 522-5247

1300 East Oak ▪ Pocatello, ID 83201 ▪ 232-7985

www.tcgardens.com



Planting your own Planters & Baskets

Planting your own planters and hanging baskets is EASY!

What you'll need: Pot or Hanging Basket
T&C Professional Potting Mix
Flowers and Plants
Osmocote Plant Food
Fertilome 20-20-20 Plant Food



Step 1: Choose a pot with drainage holes. It is nearly impossible to be successful with a pot that has no drainage. Putting gravel in the bottom of the pot does not help.

Step 2: Fill pot with potting mix. Be sure to use a high quality potting mix. Poor potting mix will result in poor performance. We use and recommend *Town & Country Professional Potting Mix*. If potting mix is dry, moisten with a bit of water.

Step 3: Plant flowers at the same depth they are in their original pot. Plant taller plants in the middle, lower plants next, and trailing plants around the edge of the basket or planter. (Thrillers, fillers, and spillers)

Step 4: Feed with *Osmocote Plant Food* according to directions on package. This slow release plant food will feed your plants all season long.

Step 5: Water well. Water thoroughly until water begins draining from holes in bottom of pot. Thereafter, water when soil surface is dry or pot feels light when lifted. Planters will need watered less often at first and more often as plants get larger and weather gets warmer.

Step 6: Place in full sun. If starting indoors, place them in a south facing window and set them out during the daytime when temperatures are warm so they get full sunlight. If starting outside, bring them in at night if there is risk of frost. Shade loving planters would be better started in an east window.

Step 7: Feed with *Fertilome 20-20-20 Water Soluble Plant Food* every two weeks until plants have grown larger, then begin feeding every week.

(See reverse side for long term care instructions)

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