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Hanging Baskets

Hanging Baskets are living plants, many of which are native to tropical regions. They thrive in conditions similar to their original homes. Use the guide below to select the right amount of sunlight for your basket.

<u>Sun Lovers</u>		<u>Shade tolerant (sun until 10 am)</u>	
Asarina	Bacopa	Asarina	Bacopa
Black-eyed Susan Vine	Geranium-Ivy	Begonia	Firetail (<i>Acalypha</i>)
Geranium-Zonal	Petunias	Fuchsia	Geranium-Ivy (some)
Petunias-Million Bells	Petunias-Supertunias	Impatiens-New Guinea	Impatiens-Rosebud
Portulaca	Scaevola	Impatiens-Single	Lobelia
Verbena		Lotus	Streptocarpus

The Ride Home

Please protect your new basket on the ride home. **Do not** carry them in the back of an open truck. They may never recover from the exposure to strong winds and cold temperatures that result.

Location, Location, Location

How well your basket thrives is very dependent on the location you select. Use the chart above for selecting the proper amount of light for your basket. Hang baskets in the spring after danger of cool nights (40°F or less) has passed. Protect your baskets from excessive winds, rain, hail and other inclement weather.

Watering

The most frequent cause of basket failure is poor watering practices. A plant's watering requirements will change with the weather, so keep an eye on the amount of moisture in the soil.

- ❖ To determine if your plant needs water, stick your finger deep into the soil. The soil should be damp to moist below the surface-not soaking wet.
- ❖ When watering, water thoroughly until the water runs through the basket and then water a bit more to ensure the soil is wet all the way through.
- ❖ Baskets should not be allowed to completely dry out. Dried out, wilted plants may never recover, no matter how much more water you add after the fact. If you plan to be away from home, make arrangements for someone to take care of your baskets.
- ❖ Please don't drown your basket. Most plants cannot live in soggy soil. Over watered plants exhibit the same wilting leaves as dried out plants. Adding more water to a drowning plant will not revive it.
- ❖ Take care not to water plants in cold weather if the soil feels moist.

Fertilizing

Regular feeding is **essential** for a beautiful and healthy basket. We recommend using a combination of a slow-release fertilizer, such as Osmocote (14-14-14), combined with a water-soluble fertilizer such as Peter's (20-20-20). Follow the manufacturer's instructions for proper application rates. The water-soluble fertilizer should be applied every two weeks if you are also using the slow release, but it will not harm the plant to do it every week when the weather is warm. We apply a slow-release fertilizer at the beginning of the growing season, another application should be done in 2 months.

Keep the blooms coming

Pinch off old blooms to encourage fresh blossoms and keep your basket looking beautiful throughout the season. Fuchsias will produce a black "berry" (seed) after their blossoms drop, these should be pinched off.