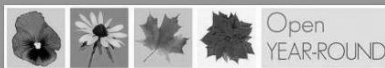


# Johnson Brothers Greenhouses

THE place for plants.



91444 Coburg Rd., Eugene OR • [www.jbgreenhouses.com](http://www.jbgreenhouses.com) • 541.484.1649

## DO's & DON'T's of Poinsettia Care

- **DO** place your plant in indirect sunlight for at least six hours per day. If direct sun can't be avoided, diffuse the light with a shade or sheer curtain.
- **DO** provide room temperatures between 60 - 70° F. Generally speaking, if you are comfortable, so is your Poinsettia.
- **DO** water your plant when the soil feels dry to the touch.
- **DO** use a plant sleeve or a large, roomy shopping bag to protect your plant when transporting it.
- **DONT** place plants near cold drafts or excessive heat. Avoid placing plants near appliances, fireplaces or ventilating ducts or the top of a television.
- **DONT** place plants near cold drafts or excessive heat. Avoid placing plants near appliances, fireplaces or ventilating ducts or the top of a television.
- **DONT** expose plants to temperatures below 50° F. Poinsettias are sensitive to cold, so avoid placing them outside during the winter months.
- **DONT** over water your plant, or **allow it to sit in standing water.** Always remove a plant from any decorative container before watering, and allow the water to drain completely.
- **DONT** expose your plant to chilling winds when transporting it.
- **DONT** fertilize your plant when it is in bloom.

## How to pick a Perfect Poinsettia

A deep, vibrant red Poinsettia is one of the most popular and beautiful decorations during the Christmas season Johnson Brothers Greenhouses produces most of the poinsettias it sells in order to provide you with the highest quality and the largest selection to choose from. Here are some tips on making choice for a healthy and long-lasting Poinsettia.

### Bract color

You should choose plants with thoroughly colored and expanded bracts. (Bracts are the colored portions of the plant, while the actual flowers are the yellow centers). Avoid plants with too much green around the bract edges, as this is a sign of insufficient maturity. Look for plants with dense, plentiful foliage all the way to the soil line. An abundance of rich green foliage is a vital sign of good plant health.

### Shape and proportion

Proper proportion of plant height and shape relative to container size is the key to an aesthetically pleasing Poinsettia. Plants should appear balanced, full and attractive from all angles. A generally accepted standard is the plant should be 2 1/2 times taller than the diameter of the container.

### Durability and freshness

Select plants with stiff stems, good bract retention and no signs of wilting, breaking or drooping. Touch the plant's soil: it's best to avoid waterlogged soil, particularly if the plant appears wilted. Such a condition could signify irreversible root rot. When transporting the plant, protect it from chilling winds and temperatures below 50° F. By inserting your Poinsettia into a sleeve or a large, roomy shopping bag will usually provide adequate protection for transporting the plant home when it is cold and windy.

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## How to re-bloom your Poinsettia

When the Poinsettia's bracts age and lose their aesthetic appeal, there's no reason to throw it out. With proper care, dedication and a certain amount of luck, you too can re-bloom your Poinsettia!

By late March or early April, cut your Poinsettia back to about 8 inches in height. Continue a regular watering program, and fertilize your plant with a good, balanced all-purpose fertilizer. By the end of May, you should see vigorous new growth.

Place your plants outdoors, where they can bask in the warmth of spring and summer, after all chance of frost has passed and night temperatures average 55° F or above. Continue regular watering during the growth period, and fertilize every 2 to 3 weeks.

Pruning may be required during the summer to keep plants bushy and compact. Late June or early July is a good time for this step, but be sure not to prune your plant later than September 1st. Keep the plants in indirect sun and water regularly.

Around June 1st, you may transplant

your poinsettia into a larger pot.

Poinsettias do better in larger containers. Select a pot no more than 4 inches larger than the original pot. Use a good quality potting soil. Johnson Brothers Potting Mix is highly recommended, due to its balance of fertilizers, organic matter & conditioners. In milder climates, you may transplant the plant into a well-prepared garden bed. Be sure the planting bed is rich in organic material and has good drainage.

Starting October 1st, the plants must be kept in complete darkness for 14 continuous hours each night.

Accomplish this by moving the plants to a totally dark room, or by covering them overnight with a large box.

During October, November and early December, poinsettias require 6–8 hours of bright sunlight daily, with night temperatures between 60–70° F. Temperatures outside of this range could also delay flowering. Continue the normal watering and fertilizer program. Carefully following this regime for 8 to 10 weeks should result in a colorful display of blooms for the holiday season!