



How to Grow Dactylorhiza

Position – Part shade

Soil – Moist, well-drained

Flowering Period – Summer

Hardiness – Fully hardy to hardy

About Dactylorhiza

Dactylorhiza are deciduous, tuberous perennial plants that are currently under threat of extinction in the wild. Lance-shaped and bright green spotted foliage is often covered with bundles of purple, pink or white flowers, showing an array of colour throughout the summer months.

They are best planted within flower beds and borders and will look fantastic within a wildflower meadow or informal garden setting. They are easy to grow, reaching an approximate height and spread of 45-60cm (18-24").

How to plant Dactylorhiza

When planting Dactylorhiza, ensure the roots are spread out in a pot with plenty of space to grow and develop. They are best placed in a position of part shade within moist, well-drained soil of loam or clay and in conditions that are alkaline, acidic or neutral.

Mix in a generous amount of potting compost and dress the surface of the soil with fine grit to prevent rotting in the spring whilst watering thoroughly.

How to care for Dactylorhiza

During early active growth, these plants should be fed with a dilute fertiliser. Some hardy varieties will require protection from severe frosts and cold weather, so it is recommended to transfer these plants to a greenhouse or similar environment that is well ventilated. There should be no need for pruning by you may deadhead spent flowers if necessary.

How to propagate Dactylorhiza

It is possible to propagate Dactylorhiza by division during the spring time.