



## How to Grow Pelargonium

**Position** – Full sun or part shade

**Soil** – Well-drained

**Flowering Period** – Spring and summer

**Hardiness** – Half hardy to tender

### About Pelargonium

Pelargonium are perennials, sub-shrubs or shrubs that are also known as Geraniums. Most varieties are evergreen with palmately lobed leaves and vibrant clusters of flowers – each petal showcases unique shapes and sizes. Dependant on variety, some have scented foliage, some are trailing and some have a bushy habit. It is recommended that Pelargonium are grown as patio and container plants or as bedding plants. Pelargoniums also make stunning cut flowers and can last in a vase for up to 3 weeks. You should expect to see Pelargonium grow to an approximate height of 40cm (16") and a spread of 30-45cm (12-18").

### How to plant Pelargonium

Pelargonium are best planted in well-drained soil of loam and sand within an acidic, alkaline or neutral PH balance once all risk of frost has passed. If you are planting in containers, grow in potting compost within a sheltered area with access to full sunlight, although some varieties would prefer part shade (check advice on individual cultural information). Ensure they are well-ventilated and use a slow release fertiliser during the spring to aid in their overall development.

### How to care for Pelargonium

Pelargoniums should be watered sparingly during active growth as they do not tolerate consistently moist or waterlogged soil. Watering should be undertaken every 3 to 4 days – this should be increased during prolonged periods of dry weather. An organic plant based feed should be provided fortnightly for your plants to fully thrive. Pelargoniums should be deadheaded regularly as this will prolong the flowering period. Plants should be lifted before the first frosts take hold, and should be stored in a cool, dry environment such as a greenhouse or a conservatory, cutting the top growth back by a third.

### How to propagate Pelargonium

It is possible to propagate Pelargonium by cuttings during the summer and overwinter them in frost free conditions. Alternatively, you may wish to propagate by softwood cuttings in the spring.