



Annual Guide

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Hanging Basket/Porch Pot Care

Watering: Hanging baskets and flower planters typically need more water than flowers in your garden. How often you will need to water will vary on the time of the season. On cool spring days, you typically will water every 2-3 days, but once you get to the summer, you will be watering at least once a day. Follow these tips for the best water guidelines.

- When possible water your plants during the cooler part of the day so the water doesn't evaporate too quickly.
- Plants in smaller baskets/porch pots generally dry out quicker because they have less soil, be sure to check these more often.
- Give the baskets/porch pots enough water so that the water pours through the drainage hole.
- Moisture meters are a great tool to assist with your watering needs. The meter is inserted into soil and will advise you of the level of wetness/dryness in your basket/porch pots.
- Be careful, it is possible to over water. If the soil is too wet or is in standing water, root rot can occur.



Fertilizing:

Less is more, a little bit of fertilizer can go a long way. The fertilizer will replenish nutrients in the soil and help make fuller looking planters. Make sure that you fertilize when the soil is moist, not when the plants are wilting, and follow the directions on the specific fertilizer you are using. You may fertilize every two weeks to help keep your plants looking healthy throughout the season.

Rotating your plants:

If you notice one or two of your baskets are doing better than the rest, try rotating their location if possible. You may have hanging baskets on either side of your porch and one side always gets a strong blast of the afternoon sun while the other side is a little more temperate. By mid-summer, one basket is looking great and the other could be looking a little sad. By rotating your baskets you can avoid a situation like this.

Trimming your plants:

Baskets/porch pots can start to look pretty unkempt by midsummer. If this happens, give them a little "haircut" to increase branching and create a fuller looking basket for the rest of the summer. To trim, use a pair of sharp sheers to trim off at least a couple of inches. Baskets with a lot of trailing flowers may need a little bit more. You just want to even things out. Be warned that you may lose some pretty flowers short-term, but your baskets and porch pots should bounce back quickly and will be much healthier in the long-term.

Dead Heading:

As the flowers die, be sure to remove them by pinching them off where they meet the stem. Not only does this make your baskets look better, but it also encourages more blooms. There are some flowers, however, that don't require this, so check the care instructions on the specific flowers you're planting. It might save you a little time!

FULL SUN ANNUALS

Petunias	Marigolds
Periwinkle	Cosmos
Geraniums	Lisianthus
Salvia	Cleome
Lantana	Penta
Zinnia	Nemesia
Celosia	Moss Rose (Portulaca)
Canna Lillies	Sunflowers
Gerbera Daisies	Scaevola
Angelonia	Sunpatients

SHADE ANNUALS

Impatiens	New Guinea Impatiens
Coleus	Caladium
Begonias	Cordyline
Browalia	Alocasia
Fuchsia	Colocasia
Torenia	Hypoestes

HEAT TOLERANT

Alyssum	Lantana
Alternanthera	Moss Rose (Portulaca)
Angelonia	Zinnia
Scaevola	Canna Lillies
Flambe Chrysocephalum	Blue My Mind
Euphorbia	Penta
Gomphrena	Lemon Coral Sedum

DROUGHT TOLERANT ANNUALS

Lantana	Gazania
Moss Rose (Portulaca)	Ageratum
Geraniums	Salvia
Zinnias	Sunflowers
Cosmos	Marigolds
Periwinkle	Snap Dragons
Succulents	

PEST RESISTANT ANNUALS

Marigolds	Datura
Cleome	Snapdragons
Ageratum	Artemisia
Lantana	Heliotrope
Dusty Miller	Lobularia
Angelonia	Zinnia
Lobelia	