

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHEN IS THE BEST TIME TO PLANT FOR MY AREA?

They must be planted in the fall rather than in the spring because they require a long period of cool temperatures (minimum 6 weeks) in order to encourage flower bud initiation. If you live in Zones 8 and below, plant as soon as the ground is cool, when evening temperatures average between 40-50 degrees F. You should plant at least six weeks before the ground freezes. If it's necessary, store bulbs for a month or longer in a cool dry place like your garage or basement.

If you live in Zones 9 and above, planting fall bulbs in warm climates requires pre-chilling in order to bloom. To pre-chill, leave bulbs in their bags and place in a refrigerator for 6-10 weeks. Be careful not to store near fruit, especially apples, because ripening fruit gives off ethylene gas which can damage or kill the flower inside the bulb.

WHERE SHOULD I PLANT MY CROCUS?

These can be planted almost anywhere, except in dense shade on the north side of buildings. Make sure the soil drains well because they could rot in soggy ground. Plant under trees or in groups along a walkway so they don't get lost in the landscape. They will grow right through groundcovers like creeping phlox and thyme. You can even plant them in the lawn; just wait for them to die back before you mow for the first time.

DO I NEED TO DIVIDE THEM?

After a few years you may notice a decline in the number of flowers because of overcrowding. After the flowers are spent and the foliage has started to brown, cut off the dying leaves and dig up the corms, divide and re-plant elsewhere.

ARE THESE CRITTER RESISTANT?

Yes. Deer, squirrels, and rabbits rarely bother early bulbs, however, we say 'deer resistant' not 'deer proof' and if it has been a rough winter and they are hungry enough the little critters may eat them. If you have a history of problems with critters eating your bulbs you could cover your spring bulb bed with chicken wire and your flowers will grow right through them.

FIRST THINGS FIRST...

When your plants arrive from Roberta's, remove from the shipping box immediately.

Remove plastic bag and/or sleeve from around the corms. Discard any packing material clinging to the corms. Plant in the fall when evening temperatures average between 40-50 degrees F, but before the ground freezes.

When ready to plant, do the job as early in the day as possible to avoid extreme soil temperatures that prevent proper water uptake from the roots. Water them in well and whisper a few words of wisdom.



Our Warranty (Perennials)

We aren't happy if you aren't happy. If you have any questions regarding your order please call us at 1-800-428-9726 during the hours of 8:30am and 4:30pm EST.

You can email questions to us at:
plantquestions@robertasinc.com.

If your bulbs, cuttings etc. do not sprout, or your plant dies within one year from the date of shipment, we will send you a replacement free of charge. We cannot accept responsibility for losses due to extreme weather or neglect. Simply call us at the above toll free number or fill out the plant replacement form on our website at www.robertasinc.com.

Roberta's will replace it with a similar or comparable plant at no charge. If your replacement is not available or it is too late in the season to ship, it will ship the following year.

Neither the retailer nor any other company involved in the sale or promotion of this product is a co-warrantor of this plant warranty.

Plant Hardiness Zone Map



ROBERTA'S GARDENS PLANTING AND GROWING GUIDE



Orange Monarch Snow Crocus
Remembrance Giant Dutch Crocus
Pickwick Giant Dutch Crocus
(Crocus olivieri balansae, Crocus vernus 'Remembrance' and Crocus vernus 'Pickwick')



1-800-428-9726

Monday – Friday 8:30AM – 4:30PM EST

Thank you
for bringing us into your home

www.robertasinc.com

Roberta's, P.O. Box 368, Waldron, IN 46182



QUICK REFERENCE PLANTING GUIDE

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|---|--|
| LIGHT/SUN EXPOSURE: | Full Sun to Part Sun |
| USDA HARDINESS ZONES: | 3-9 |
| PLANT TYPE | Perennial |
| PLANTING DISTANCE: | 3-4" (if planted in a group- 6 bulbs per sq. ft.) |
| MATURE HEIGHT/SPREAD: | 4-6 inches 2-4 inches |
| BLOOM TIME: | Late Winter-Early Spring |
| PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS: <small>(soil preparation, depth, which end is up, etc.)</small> | Remove plastic bag and/or sleeve from around the corms. Discard any packing material clinging to the corms. Plant in the fall before the ground freezes. |

PLANTING GUIDE

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|-----------|--|
| 1 STEP | Remove plastic bag and/or sleeve from around the corms. Discard any packing material clinging to the corms |
| 2 STEP | Plant in the garden when evening temperatures average between 40-50F degrees, but before the ground freezes. |
| 3 STEP | Rather than in the garden you may plant into large containers. |
| 4 STEP | Planted now, they will produce flowers in early spring. To encourage more flowers, feed with Roberta's Gardens' Hawaiian Flower Magic (M7503). |

CONTINUING CARE

SHELF LIFE
Plant into garden when the night temperatures average 40 to 50 degrees F. If necessary store bulbs for a month or longer in a cool dry place.

PLANT PREPARATION
Remove any packing material clinging to the corms.

POTTED PLANTS
Rather in the garden you may plant into large containers. Make sure the containers have adequate drainage holes; crocus must not sit in water logged soil or they will rot. Any commercially available potting soil will work fine. Plant 3-4 inches deep and 2-3 inches apart with the points facing upwards, if you are not sure which side is up, plant the bulbs on their sides and they will find their way up. Water thoroughly. Roots will develop in the autumn and may develop foliage in warm winter areas. It is recommended to overwinter pots in an unheated garage and then pull the pots outside in February or March to a full or partially sunny location.

SOIL PREPARATION
Crocus require soil that drains well year round. Amend your soil to improve drainage.

GARDEN LOCATION
These can be planted almost anywhere, except in dense shade on the north side of your home. They prefer full to half day sun, however, since they will bloom before most trees have leafed out in the spring you have many options to choose from. They will grow right through groundcovers like creeping phlox and thyme and can even be planted in the lawn; just wait for them to die back before you mow for the first time. Wherever you plant them, make sure the soil drains well because they could rot in soggy ground.

PLANTING DEPTH AND SPACING
Plant your crocus 2-3 inches apart and 3-4 inches deep with the pointy end up. If you can't figure out which side is the top, plant it on its side and it will find its way up.

PLANT HEIGHT AND WIDTH
These will grow about 4-6 inches tall and 2-4 inches wide.

WATER
Water in well after planting. No additional watering is required unless rainfall is scarce. Do not plant near soaker hoses or sprinklers.

FERTILIZER
A well-balanced fertilizer such as Roberta's Flower Magic (M7503) is recommended after planting and again every fall thereafter to help stimulate root growth and then again in the spring when the foliage is starting to push through the soil.

LIGHTING
Full sun is best but will tolerate light shade.

BLOOMING
Blooms in late winter to early spring.

TEMPERATURE ZONE 3 to 9
These are hardy down to minus 40F when planted in the ground.

DORMANCY
After the flowers have bloomed you may cut the flower head off but do not cut the foliage. The bulbs use the leaves to gather energy for next year's flowers, once the leaves have turned yellow or brown you can cut them to ground level.

PROPAGATING
The best time to move or divide bulbs is when the foliage has all but withered. Lift them and replant immediately into their new location at the same depth and about three times their diameter apart.

FORCING BULBS
Bulbs may be forced into early growth for indoor display in winter. Plant them with the tips just showing, in soil-based potting mix in containers with drainage holes. Keep in a dark place at temperatures above freezing but no higher than 45F for at least 10 weeks to allow roots to develop. When shoots are about 1 inch long, increase light and temperatures gradually. Water carefully and avoid wetting the shoots or waterlogging the soil. After flowering, they may be planted in the garden and they will flower again in subsequent years.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE



Crocus Shipped as Shown



Great for mass plantings



Excellent in containers



Fills Pots Wonderfully



Naturalizing nicely in an open meadow