

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### WHAT IS CAMELLIA ALL ABOUT?

Camellia sinensis, or the Chinese Tea Plant, is the plant grown across China whose foliage is dried and used to make white, green and black tea. Growing the Chinese Tea Plant is a fun and easy way to make your own homemade tea.

### HOW DO I MAKE TEA FROM MY CHINESE TEA PLANT?

The simplest tea to make is a "White Tea" which refers to the fact that it is the most mild in flavor, has the least amount of caffeine, and is the easiest to make. To go from white tea to green tea to black tea, you use the exact same foliage but the length of time drying the leaves and then preparing the leaves will get successively longer.

To make white tea, pluck a handful of foliage and set it on a baking tray for a couple of days until the leaves have wilted. Then place baking tray in an oven set to 200-250F for 20 minutes until the leaves have completely dried. Store the foliage in a cool, dark place until you are ready to brew. When you wish to brew tea, place about 1 teaspoon to 1 tablespoon of the dried foliage in an empty tea bag, tea ball, or other tea steeping device. Pour hot water over it and allow to steep for about 3-4 minutes before removing foliage from the water.

### WHERE SHOULD I GROW MY CHINESE TEA PLANT?

This plant is a beautiful, glossy evergreen plant with fragrant white flowers. It does very well in containers that can be grown indoors as a houseplant year-round or grown outdoors in the summer and brought indoors in the winter. It is a fantastic easy to grow houseplant. If you live where the winters are warm, you can plant them as a nice hedge around the garden that produces beautiful white flowers.

## FIRST THINGS FIRST...

When your plant arrives from Roberta's, remove from the shipping box immediately.

Remove plastic bag and sleeve from around potted plant(s). Discard any packing material clinging to the leaves or soil. Pull away any yellow or brown leaves that may have occurred during transit. If you can't plant it into garden or larger pot within a few days, make sure it stays well watered.

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 (Annuals and Tropical Plants)

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 90 days 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](http://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



1-800-428-9726

Monday – Friday 8:30AM – 4:30PM EST

Thank you  
for bringing us into your home

[www.robertasinc.com](http://www.robertasinc.com)

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



## ROBERTA'S GARDENS PLANTING AND GROWING GUIDE



Camellia Chinese Tea Plant  
(Camellia sinensis)



## QUICK REFERENCE PLANTING GUIDE

LIGHT/SUN EXPOSURE:	Full to Partial Sun
USDA HARDINESS ZONES:	7-10
PLANT TYPE	Annual
PLANTING DISTANCE:	2-3 feet
MATURE HEIGHT/SPREAD:	3-5 feet 2-3 feet
BLOOM TIME:	Late Autumn to Winter by 2nd Season
PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS:	Remove plastic bag and sleeve from around potted plant(s). Discard any packing material clinging to the leaves or soil. Transplant into a larger 12-16 inch container or together in larger containers with adequate drainage holes.

(soil preparation, depth, which end is up, etc.)

## PLANTING GUIDE

1

STEP

Remove plastic bag and sleeve from around potted plant(s). Discard any packing material clinging to the leaves or soil. Pull away any yellow or brown leaves or spent flowers that may have occurred during transit. If you cannot plant it into garden or larger pot within a few days, make sure it stays well watered.

2

STEP

Transplant into a larger 12-16 inch container or together in larger container with adequate drainage holes. They can also be planted directly in garden spacing adequately if you live where the winters stay above 20F. Water in well.

3

STEP

You should place plants outside as long as evening temperatures stay above 50 degrees Fahrenheit. Or they may be grown as houseplant year-round.

4

STEP

Planted now, your plants will start to fill out and produce flowers by mid to late summer.

## CONTINUING CARE

### PLANT PREPARATION

Remove plastic bag and sleeve from around potted plant(s). Discard any packing material clinging to the leaves or soil. Pull away any yellow or brown leaves that may have occurred during transit. If you cannot plant it into garden or larger pot within a few days, make sure it stays well watered.

### POTTED PLANTS

Repot the plants into larger 12 to 16 inch pots separately or together in larger containers.

### SOIL

They like bagged potting mixes for houseplants that will drain well. Most garden centers carry various brand names with perlite, vermiculite, soil and sand.

### GARDEN PREPARATION

If you live where winter temperatures stay above 20F you may plant directly in the garden.

### PLANTING SPACING

If planting into the garden space them 2-3 feet apart. If planting into a container allow for adequate air ventilation on deck or patio.

### PLANT HEIGHT AND WIDTH

These grow about 3-5 feet tall and 2-3 feet wide. To keep plant compact, simply prune branches after plants have flowered. In the garden they can grow substantially larger.

### WATER

As a house plant, during the warm growing season water an average amount, about 1-3 times per week, not allowing soil to completely dry out between watering. In the garden, water every couple days during the summer. Reduce watering in the winter by about half.

### FERTILIZER

To promote more flowers use a well balanced fertilizer like Roberta's Flower Magic Plant Food (M7503) once a month April through August.

### LIGHTING

In the home they prefer as much brightness as possible. Outside in the summer, full to partial sun is best.

### BLOOMING

They bloom in the late fall to winter time.

### TEMPERATURE ZONE 7 to 10

If winter temperatures stay above 20F, you may plant directly into the garden. Otherwise, keep plants in containers and bring indoors as soon as temperatures start to dip below 45F. Generally speaking, plants that are in containers cannot handle as cold of temperatures as when they are planted in the ground.

## ADDITIONAL REFERENCE



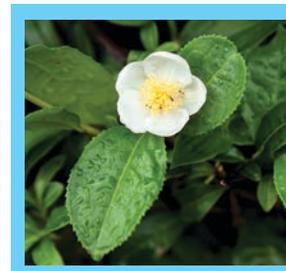
Camellia Shipped as Shown



Fragrant flowers in the autumn and winter



Homemade tea couldn't be easier



Glossy evergreen foliage



Great, easy to grow houseplant