

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### WHERE IS THE BEST PLACE TO LOCATE MY GRAPEVINES?

Select a site with full sun. If you don't have a spot with full sun, make sure it at least gets morning sun. A small amount of afternoon shade won't hurt. Your soil needs to be deep, well-drained, and loose. You also need good air circulation and some sort of support to help train the grapes to grow upward.

### DO I NEED TO MULCH?

Unlike many other plants, it is best not to mulch around the base of your grapevines as the mulch can keep the soil too cool. Grapevine roots like to be warm.

### ARE THEY CRITTER RESISTANT?

No. squirrels, deer and raccoons love to munch on the sweet fruit.

### HOW DO I KNOW MY GRAPES ARE RIPE?

The best way to tell if your grapes are ripe is by eating them. Test a few to see if they are ready before harvesting, usually in late summer-early fall. Grapes will not continue ripening once they have been picked from the vine.

### MY GRAPES ARE NOT RIPENING.

If your grapes aren't ripening, pinch back some of the foliage to let in more sunlight.

### WHAT CAN BE DONE TO COUNTER ACT BIRDS?

Birds are attracted to the ripening fruit and can eat them all before you are ready to harvest. The only full proof method of protection is netting to cover the ripening fruit on the vine.

## FIRST THINGS FIRST...

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

Remove each bare root from the plastic bags. Discard any packing material clinging to the roots or stems. Cut away any yellow or brown leaves as well as broken roots. If you can't plant it into the garden or larger pot within a few days, make sure it stays cool.

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](mailto: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](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



## ROBERTA'S GARDENS PLANTING AND GROWING GUIDE



Grape



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)

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



# QUICK REFERENCE PLANTING GUIDE

LIGHT/SUN EXPOSURE:	Full Sun to Partial Sun
USDA HARDINESS ZONES:	4 to 7
PLANT TYPE	Perennial
PLANTING DISTANCE:	4-8 feet plus
MATURE HEIGHT/SPREAD:	15-20 feet tall & wide
BLOOM TIME:	Late Spring to Early Summer
FRUIT TIME:	Late Summer to Early Autumn
PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS: (soil preparation, depth, which end is up, etc.)	Each bag contains 1 plant. Remove each bare root from the plastic bags. Cut away any yellow or brown leaves as well as broken roots. Transplant into the garden as soon as evening temperatures stay above 40F.

# PLANTING GUIDE

1 STEP	Plant in early spring as soon as your soil can be worked. Grapes will grow in most well-draining soils with pH preferably between 5.6 and 6.4.
2 STEP	Place your rooted cutting in a hole large enough to spread roots in a downward outward fashion.
3 STEP	Fill hole, tamp soil around grape and water well. Prune cutting back to a single cane leaving 2-3 buds.
4 STEP	After danger of frost is past and growth has begun, remove all but the two strongest shoots per vine.

# CONTINUING CARE

**PLANT PREPARATION**  
Each bag contains 1 plant. Remove each bare root from the plastic bags. Cut away any yellow or brown leaves as well as broken roots.

**DETERMINING THE BOTTOM OR TOP OF CLUMPS**  
These bare roots have roots radiating from the crown and cane above the crown. The roots should be put into the soil facing downward. You may prune the roots to help them fit into their holes.

**GARDEN LOCATION**  
They like full sun or partial. Dig holes twice the width of the root ball and deep enough to accommodate the roots. In order to have clean fruit, the vines must be supported on a trellis, arbor, fence, espalier, or other means.

**POTTED PLANTS**  
Use at least a 12 inch pot per plant. Provide a means of support that will accommodate considerable growth. Pot up one size per year if desired.

**SOIL PREPARATION**  
Grapes will grow in many different soils – even soil of sand, gravel, shale, slate or clay. Vine growth is generally improved by adding organic matter such as peat, straw, leaf mold, or other to soil.

**PLANT HEIGHT AND WIDTH**  
These will grow 15-20 feet wide or long depending on whether you train them vertically or horizontally.

**SPROUTING TIME**  
Sprouts in spring. In the ground it takes a little longer if the temperatures are still cool.

**WATER**  
Keep new plants moist until they get established and growing. During the first season, water at least once a week. After the first year, the roots will travel deep and will find adequate moisture for survival requiring less water.

**LIGHTING**  
Full sun or partial sun is needed.

**FOLIAGE**  
Young grape leaves are often added to pickling cucumbers to increase the crunchiness of homemade pickles. European cuisine uses it widely for its flavor.

**BLOOMING**  
These plants will bloom in mid to late spring. Blossoms turn into clusters of grapes.

**FRUITING**  
Grapes bear fruit on the green shoots that arise from one-year-old canes. Although some fruit may occur later than normal the first year, good yields are assured in the 2nd season and beyond.

**TEMPERATURE ZONE 4 to 7**  
These are hardy down to a minus 20 degrees below 0 when planted in the ground. In pots they are hardy to about 0 F.

**SUMMER GROOMING**  
Once fruit begins to form it is worthwhile to thin leaves, stems and growth that block the fruit from the sunlight. This helps the fruit form larger, more fully and ripen faster.

**SPRING PRUNING**  
Early spring pruning is important for producing fruit in the current season, and renewing young canes for the next year. Don't be afraid to cut. When you finish, about 90% of last year's growth will be cut. Simply leave alone two - four laterally growing branches that are tied to the trellis. Entirely cut away all others.

**ARBORS**  
Grape arbors can add both fruit and shade to the garden. With their vigorous growth, grape plants will cover an arbor in a few seasons. For consistent fruit production, however, some judicious pruning is required. Basic guidelines are similar in that you establish a main permanent trunk going up over the arbor, with short laterals or spurs from which you select the new fruiting canes each year. If too many old, non-fruiting canes have accumulated, thin about half of them out completely.

**SUPPORT**  
In order to have clean fruit, the vines must be supported on a trellis, arbor, fence, espalier, or other means. Training and tying the shoots upward on the trellis wires should also begin fairly early.

# ADDITIONAL REFERENCE



Grape Shipped as Shown



Give them support as they vine to great heights



Large yields in the 2nd season



Large fruit with a superb flavor in a seedless variety