

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHEN CAN BLOOMS BE EXPECTED?

In some cases you may get some flowers the first season in mid summer provided the temperatures do not turn into extreme heat too fast. If you do it will be nothing compared to the second season. Beginning the second spring season they produce impressive flowers.

DO THE FLOWERS REALLY NEED STAKING?

The flowers most often require some staking unless they are up against a wall and out of the wind. Often they grow to 4 feet tall and are too pretty to let be ruined in a storm.

ARE ANTS ON THE BLOSSOMS A SIGN OF PESTS?

No. Ants feed on the sweet sugary nectar of the flowers. Peonies are darn near pest free.

DO PEONIES MAKE GOOD CUT FLOWERS?

These make excellent cut flowers. Cut as much of the as you want! They drink a lot of water inside vase. Best time to cut is in the morning while they have buds that are cracking.

CAN PEONIES BE DIVIDED?

These roots will re-bloom every year. They can be subdivided in early spring after 5 years. Separate them making sure each section have at least 3 eyes or buds. Propagating can however make them skip blooming in the season they are divided.

MY ROOTS ARE SLOW TO COME UP?

Make sure that you did not plant them too deep. Pull out one and compare to the root picture inside this guide to make sure that they were planted with the top side up. They also need to be covered with only two to three inches of soil.

DO THEY NEED TO BE CUT BACK?

Yes. These are herbaceous peonies. After the first frost, cut plants back to the ground.

DO PEONIES NEED COLD WEATHER?

Yes. Peonies appreciate and need some cold weather during the winter season. They require a few consecutive weeks of below freezing weather in order to thrive and bloom properly the next spring. The main objective is to keep the roots cold, so freezing and thawing will not work.

FIRST THINGS FIRST...

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

Keep bareroot(s) inside packing material until ready to plant into ground or container. Put in a cool dark, protected area and plant as soon as possible. For extended storage time, place in refrigerator for up to 3 weeks.

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



Peony
(*Paeonia lactiflora* hybrids)



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

LIGHT/SUN EXPOSURE:	Full to Partial
USDA HARDINESS ZONES:	3-8
PLANT TYPE	Perennial
PLANTING DISTANCE:	24-36 inches
MATURE HEIGHT/SPREAD:	36-40 inches
BLOOM TIME:	mid summer 1st season; late spring subsequent seasons
PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS: <small>(soil preparation, depth, which end is up, etc.)</small>	Discard any unattached pieces of old roots or crown remnants. Dig a hole two times the width of the root. Place on any side and cover with 2-3 inches of soil. Water them thoroughly

PLANTING GUIDE

1 STEP	Discard any unattached pieces of old roots or crown remnants. You must plant into the garden itself because they like to remain undisturbed for many years. Wait until night temperatures stay above 35 degrees.
2 STEP	Dig a hole two times the width of the root. Place on any side and cover with 2-3 inches of soil. Full sun is best though 1/2 day is fine too.
3 STEP	Water them thoroughly. Once they sprout water again. Keep moist in summer with deep thorough watering.
4 STEP	Planted now each root will produce a few impressive flowers in mid-summer the first year. Beginning in the second spring season, they produce a tremendous number of large, exquisite, ruffled flowers in late spring every year thereafter. In the garden, they are hardy down to a minus 30 below 0 with just a little autumn mulching.

CONTINUING CARE

NATURE ATTRACTION

These plants attract hummingbirds. Their sweet fragrance and fluffy blossoms will also attract your own nose. They are virtually pest free.

KEY TIPS

Peonies like to be planted in a permanent location and can live for 50 years. They do not like to be buried too deeply. Though slow to establish top growth, you can be assured they are developing a deep, substantial root system.

SHELF LIFE

Plant in garden immediately after the night temperatures stay above 35 degrees.

PREPARATION

Discard any unattached pieces of old roots that may have occurred.

DETERMINING THE BOTTOM OR TOP OF CLUMPS

These clumps have roots radiating from a central point called the crown. Plant the clumps with the roots facing downward and buds upwards. Otherwise place them on any side, and they will grow fine.

PLANTING DEPTH

Dig a hole two times the width of the root. Place on any side and cover with 2-3 inches of soil. Do not cover any deeper.

SPROUTING TIME

Sprouts in May after 4-6 weeks. In the ground it takes a little longer if the temperatures are still cold.

POTTED PLANTS

These do fine as potted plants as long as you start with at least a 12 inch pot per root. Be sure not to plant too deep and try not to transplant more than every 3 years.

GARDEN PREPARATION

Dig a hole two times the width of the root. Place on any side and cover with 2-3 inches of soil. Space them at least 24-36 inches apart. These spread rapidly below with a deep substantial root system and like the room to grow.

SOIL

If your soil is clayish amend it with a standard garden soil for adequate drainage.

WATER

Water thoroughly upon planting. Wait until they sprout for subsequent watering. Once they sprout keep the soil moist all summer long with deep thorough watering. This is vital to insure a long, sustainable blooming period.

FERTILIZER

This helps maintain flower size and count from year to year. For best results, use Roberta's Flower Magic Plant Food (M7503, M9817) twice a month all summer long.

LIGHTING

Full sun is preferred though half day is fine too.

BLOOMING

These plants will bloom in mid summer during first season with a couple flowers. They will bloom late spring in subsequent seasons with many flowers.

TEMPERATURE ZONE 3 to 8

These are hardy down to a minus 30 degrees below 0. If you live where it rarely freezes they will bloom with smaller flowers than otherwise.

WINTER DORMANCY

After the first frost, cut plants back to the ground.

PROPAGATING

These roots will re-bloom every year. They can be subdivided in early spring after 5 years. Separate them making sure each section has at least 3 eyes or buds. Propagating can however make them skip blooming in the season they are divided.

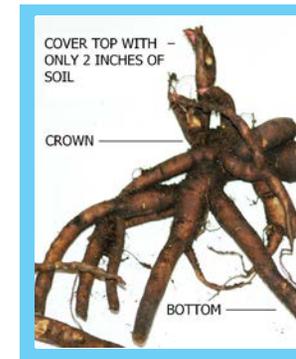
CUT FLOWERS

These make excellent cut flowers. Go for it and enjoy!

KEY TIPS

Because of its large flowers, the stems may need staking once color appears on the buds. Rather than staking simply cut a few stems for your vases to lighten the load on the plants.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE



Peony Shipped As Shown



Thick, ruffled flowers atop strong, sturdy stems



Beautiful, ruffled blooms atop strong, sturdy stems



Thick, fragrant flowers



Peony in 3rd year Peony fields in Holland