

# TIPS AND FAQs

## UPON ARRIVAL

When your plants arrive from Roberta's remove bare roots and plants from the shipping box immediately. Consider doing this outside or somewhere you don't mind getting messy, as some of the soil around the roots and plants may have shaken loose.

Keep bare root(s) inside packing material until ready to plant into the ground or in containers. Place in a cool, protected area and plant as soon as possible. For extended storage, place in the refrigerator for up to 3 weeks.

Remove the plastic bag and sleeve from around the potted plants and discard any packing material clinging to the leaves or soil. Water plants immediately after taking them out of the box. Give them enough water so that the soil appears damp and water trickles out the bottom of the pot.

When ready to plant bare roots and plants, try to do so before the heat of the day sets in. This will help you avoid extreme soil temperatures that prevent proper water uptake from the roots. Give the soil you are about to plant into a nice watering before you plant the roots and plants, and then water again once you've planted into the soil.

## STRAWBERRIES

Some keys to success: awaken the bare roots before planting by placing roots in a bucket of water for 20 minutes before planting. Once you've planted your roots it is important that your plants stay well hydrated to produce the greatest amount of berries. Add a 2-inch layer of mulch around the base of the plants to conserve moisture while keeping your plants cool and hydrated.

Strawberry plants will come back each year, which is something we love about growing them. Don't plant your strawberries in a veggie garden where the crops typically get rotated in and out. To ensure they come back each year there can be a little additional care. Plants that are grown in the ground will over winter better than those in pots. Simply add a two-inch layer of mulch (bark, compost, leaves, straw etc.) at the end of autumn on top of your plants. Strawberries grown in containers will need more protection, so if possible place them in a garage, cellar, or basement during the winter months and then place back outside once temperatures are consistently above freezing.

## MINT

Growing garden mint is one of the easiest herbs to grow. Once planted they take off very quickly. For that reason many gardeners choose to plant mint in containers, raised beds, window boxes or hanging baskets. Not only will that confine your plants, but it will also make them more accessible for harvesting! Another fun way to grow mint is in a strawberry jar, you can interplant both your strawberry roots and mints in the same jar for an exciting and fun look in the garden.

This collection includes garden mint, also known as spearmint, and it is the mint we find to have the absolute best flavor to be used in all sorts of culinary applications. We love spearmint and strawberry cocktails as well as strawberry, spearmint, and basil salads.

## BASIL

We have hand-selected this basil variety because it is the most densely compact basil plant we have ever seen. That means more basil in less space! It is a perfect selection for container gardens on your porch, patio, deck, or balcony. This super-fast producing basil will be ready to begin harvesting in as little as 30 days. Basil plants love lots of sun, water and fertilizer to produce the healthiest plants with the most harvest. And in the winter, once nights begin to dip below about 45F, simply bring your plant indoors and place near a sunny window and continue the harvesting through the winter. In the springtime once temperatures have begun to warm back up, place back outside. It's as easy as that.



## 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.

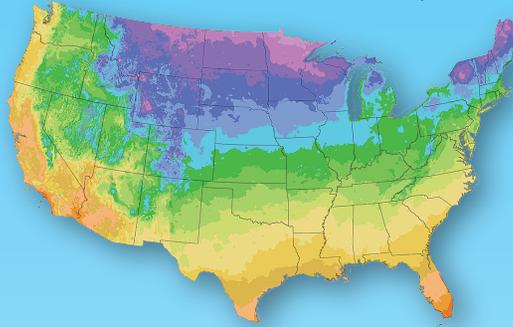
You can email questions to us at:  
[plantquestions@robertasinc.com](mailto:plantquestions@robertasinc.com).

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



9a to 11	7a	6a	5a
8a to 8b	6b	5bs to 5bn	3a to 4b
7b			



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)

@robertasgardens Roberta's Unique Gardens  
Roberta's, P.O. Box 368, Waldron, IN 46182



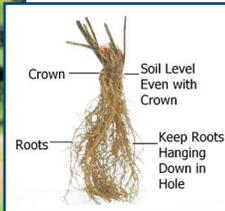
## ROBERTA'S GARDENS PLANTING AND GROWING GUIDE



Strawberry, Mint and  
Basil Collection  
(*Fragaria ananassa* hybrid,  
*Mentha spicata* & *Ocimum basilicum*)



# STRAWBERRY CARE



Shipped as Shown

LIGHT/SUN EXPOSURE:	Full Sun
USDA HARDINESS ZONES:	4-9
PLANT TYPE	Perennial
PLANTING DISTANCE:	12 - 18 inches
MATURE HEIGHT/SPREAD:	12 - 16 inches
BLOOM TIME:	Summer, by 2nd Season

**PLANT PREPARATION:** Remove each bare root from their plastic bag. Trim away any yellow or brown leaves that may have occurred. Soak the roots for 20 minutes in a bucket of water just prior to planting.

**PLANTING DEPTH & SPACING:** Dig a hole that is about 5-6" deep and about twice the width of the root ball. After you've placed the plant in the hole, cover with soil up to the crown. Make sure the crown is just barely above the surface of the soil. Space plants about 12-18" apart in the garden.

**POTTED PLANTS:** Rather than in the garden you may re-pot into large containers. Re-pot the plants into a container that is about 8-12" wide. You may also plant multiple plants in a larger container, strawberry pot, hanging basket, or any other creative container.

**SOIL PREPARATION:** Plants prefer nutrient rich, well-draining soil. Enhance soil with fertilizer or organic materials like compost.

**WATER:** Water upon planting. Wait until you see some sprouting before watering a second time. Once some growth occurs keep soil moist but not soggy during the summer months. Plants in containers will likely need more regular watering.

**FERTILIZER:** They respond to feeding with a high bloom fertilizer like Roberta's Bounty. Fertilizing every two weeks is recommended.

**WINTERIZING:** To protect your plants and ensure they come back each year, add a two-inch layer of mulch on top of plants in the ground. If plants are in containers and your winters are very cold, consider placing pots inside a garage, cellar, or basement during the winter months.

# MINT CARE



Shipped as Shown

LIGHT/SUN EXPOSURE:	Full Sun
USDA HARDINESS ZONES:	5-11
PLANT TYPE	Perennial
PLANTING DISTANCE:	12 - 24 inches
MATURE HEIGHT/SPREAD:	12 - 24 inches
BLOOM TIME:	Summer to Autumn

**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.

**PLANTING DEPTH & SPACING:** Dig a hole that is about 4-6" deep and about twice the width of the root ball. After you've placed the plant in the hole, cover with soil ensuring all the roots have been covered. In the garden, space mint about 12-24" apart.

**POTTED PLANTS:** Rather than in the garden you may re-pot into large containers. Re-pot the Mint into pots that are about 8-12" wide. This will allow your container to fill out nicely. You may also plant multiple plants together in an even larger pot. Planting mint in containers will ensure they do not invade other regions of the garden.

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

**WATER:** Water upon planting and keep soil rich and moist. Mulch the plants to help moisture in and be sure to water extra if heavy heat or dry spells occur.

**FERTILIZER:** They respond to feeding with a high bloom fertilizer like Roberta's Bounty. Fertilizing every two weeks is recommended.

**WINTERIZING:** To protect your plants and ensure they come back each year, add a two-inch layer of mulch on top of plants in the ground.

# BASIL CARE



Shipped as Shown

LIGHT/SUN EXPOSURE:	Full Sun
USDA HARDINESS ZONES:	9-11
PLANT TYPE	Perennial, bring indoors in winter
PLANTING DISTANCE:	10 - 12 inches
MATURE HEIGHT/SPREAD:	12 - 14 inches
BLOOM TIME:	Summer to Autumn

**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.

**PLANTING DEPTH & SPACING:** Dig a hole that is about 4-6" deep and about twice the width of the root ball. After you've placed the plant in the hole, cover with soil ensuring all the roots have been covered. In the garden, space basil about 10-12" apart.

**POTTED PLANTS:** Rather than in the garden you may re-pot into large containers. Re-pot the Basil into pots that are about 8-12" wide. This will allow your container to fill out nicely. You may also plant multiple plants together in an even larger pot.

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

**WATER:** Water upon planting and keep soil rich and moist. Mulch the plants to help moisture in and be sure to water extra if heavy heat or dry spells occur.

**FERTILIZER:** They respond to feeding with a high bloom fertilizer like Roberta's Bounty. Fertilizing every two weeks is recommended.

**WINTERIZING:** Because Basil cannot handle a freeze, when the nights begin to dip below 45F, bring your plants indoors and place near a sunny window. Inside the home your plants will require less water. Keep plants indoors until the spring time when temperatures are consistently above 45F.