

CARE OF FUCHSIAS



Nothing is as beautiful as a full grown fuchsia basket. Fuchsias are lovely additions to the garden with their glossy foliage and interesting shapes and sizes of the individual blooms. Unfortunately fuchsias do best where summers are cool. However fuchsias perform well in this area with the proper care and selection of variety.

LOCATION: Fuchsias thrive in shady areas and most varieties must be sheltered from the hot afternoon sun. Keep baskets away from windy locations where they can dry out too quickly. The best location is an eastern exposure. Do not place fuchsia baskets outside where they might be subjected to cold and windy conditions early in the spring. If they need to be protected from cold frosty nights, keep indoors but immediately move outside as the temperatures warm during the day. Never leave indoors for a prolonged period of time and NEVER place in a garage. Chemicals from any lingering auto exhaust will injure fuchsias as well as many plants

WATERING AND FERTILIZING: Fuchsias require moist well drained soil. Allowing the soil to become too dry will injure plants and cause leaf and flower drop. Fuchsias are heavy feeders and should be fed at least every ten days with an all purpose 20-20-20 liquid fertilizer. Never use dry fertilizer.

INSECTS AND DISEASES Leaf curl on young growth may be due to aphids. Red spiders which cause browning of the foliage in hot and dry weather are another problem. Treat with appropriate insecticides. Red spider can be controlled with daily misting of the foliage during hot and dry conditions. Few diseases bother fuchsias. Over watering will encourage root rot.

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EXTRA TIPS Fuchsias do not winter over very well indoors and rarely bloom during the winter. Varieties such as Swingtime are very heat tolerant and will bloom during the summer. Lack of bloom during the summer is usually caused by warm (above 65 degree) night temperatures. Also some varieties set seed pods which prevent continual bloom. For more info go to the American Fuchsia website. If you have any questions feel free to contact at krismerplants@fuse.net