

PEONIES AT-A-GLANCE



ABOUT

- Perennials that bloom in spring
- Sold as bare-root tubers
- Requires cold winter months to help set blooms in spring

STATS

- Some varieties grow up to 10' tall and 3-5' wide
- Two main types: Bush and Trees
- Three varieties: Early, Mid-season, and Late Blooming
- Six bloom styles: Anemone, Single, Japanese, Semi-Double, Double, and Bomb
- Bloom colors of pink, orange, red, yellow, and white

REQUIREMENTS

- Growing zones 3-8
- Requires 6-8 hours sun, early morning best
- Neutral soil pH
- Deep, fertile, and humus-rich soil

PLANTING TUBERS

- Best when planted in the fall
- Get in the ground around 6 weeks before ground freezes

- Choose location away from strong winds
- Space 3-4' apart
- Loosen soil and amend with compost
- Place tuber in ground with roots 2" below soil and eyes facing up
- Backfill but don't bury too deep
- Water thoroughly
- Add 12-18" mulch around base; Can remove in spring

MAINTENANCE

- Keep soil moist at first
- Requires 1" rainfall/water during growing season
- Water at base of plant
- Fertilize early in spring as soon as plant emerges
- Can fertilize after done blooming
- Deadhead spent blooms
- Remove dead foliage of bushes, cutting down to 1/2" above ground
- Divide well-established plants in fall

ISSUES

- Japanese beetles and nematodes
- Botrytis blight, leaf blotch, and powdery mildew

MISC

- Ants won't harm peonies
- Can take up to 3 years to produce blooms
- Make excellent cut flowers



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Life**

keeping the fun in gardening by keeping it simple!