

Bird of Paradise - Plant



Sure to attract everyones attention when it blooms, the Bird of Paradise plant is one of the most spectacular flowering plants that can be grown in the home.

Rating: Not Rated Yet

Price

Sales price R 460

Discount

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Description

Description for Bird of Paradise

It may be slow growing, but its needs are very simple. Once the plant is mature enough to bloom, you ll be amazed as its flowers emerge, looking just like an exotic bird with orange and purple plumage.

Even when this plant isn t in bloom, it offers very attractive leaves that resemble those of a banana plant. The bird of paradise plant, *Strelitzia reginae*, is native to subtropical areas of South Africa. For years, it was considered a collector s plant because it was difficult to find a nice specimen. With modern growing practices, bird of paradise plants are available more often, but are still much prized. They begin to bloom when they are 4-5 years old and live on for years and years.

When selecting a bird of paradise plant, look for a full, healthy-looking plant with lots of new growth. Plants that are slightly crowded in their pots will bloom better.

Common name	Flower colours	Bloom time	Height	Difficulty
Strelitzia, Crane Flower or Bird of Paradise	The unique flower has vivid colors and a statuesque profile that is unmistakable.	spring	4 to 5 feet tall with a 2- or 3-foot spread.	Easy to grow

Planting and care

Sunlight	Soil	Water	Temperature	Fertilizer
Provide bird of paradise with some afternoon shade to protect it from the hottest part of the day, especially in areas with sultry summers.	Grow bird of paradise in soil that drains well. Root rot can occur if the soil retains too much water. For a potted plant, use a high-quality	The soil should be kept moist all spring and summer but should be allowed to dry out slightly between waterings in the fall and	Average indoor temperatures are fine. Try to avoid temperatures below 50Â°F.	Feed your bird of paradise every other week during spring and summer and once a month in fall and winter with a liquid such as

A nearby shrub, tree, fence or wall can give the plants shade. potting mix. Outdoors, incorporate 2 or 3 inches of compost into the soil at planting time. winter. Schultz s Instant Plant Food or a water-soluble fertilizer.

Caring for Bird of Paradise

- Monitor a bird of paradise for pests, such as aphids, scale and mites. If you see a lot of pests, treat before they do significant damage.
- Insecticidal soaps work well but make sure you apply it to the undersides of the leaves, as insects tend to gather there.
- Remove plant debris under a bird of paradise to help keep insects at bay.

Typical uses of Bird of Paradise

Special features:

References

<http://www.gardeningknowhow.com/ornamental/flowers/bop/bird-of-paradise-an-exotic-flower-like-none-other.htm>
<http://homeguides.sfgate.com/keep-bird-paradise-plant-alive-32877.html> http://www.bachmans.com/divHomePage.ep?currentNodeBean=PlantCare&categoryCode=47&pageIndex=_pageIndexToken_birdofParadise