

Gerbera (Red) - Plant



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Description

Description for Gerbera (Red)

These beautiful blooms are perfect for any occasion (or for no occasion!) and for any region! It's widely recognized that sending coloured Gerbera Daisies represents different emotions, similar to what each rose colour means. Gerberas are easy to care for, whether in a vase/pot inside, or planted/potted outside.

Gerbera flowers are popular daisies that feature large, colourful blooms. Though they're commonly sold potted as gifts, they can make wonderful additions to any flower garden. Plus, when you grow your own gerbera flowers, you'll be able to make beautiful cut flower arrangements.

Family: Asteraceae

The name of the red gerbera is native to Africa, Madagascar, South America and Tropical Asia. Also known as the African Daisy, as well as Barberton Daisy and Transvaal Daisy, its name comes from the 18th century German naturalist, Traugott Gerber.

Common name	Flower colours	Bloom time	Height	Difficulty
African Daisy, Transvaal Daisy, Barberton Daisy.	Orange flower, Red gerbera daisy leaves are rich green in colour, funky in shape and curly on the sides.	Red gerbera daisies are considered perennial flowers in warm areas and annual ones in places where winter is involved. Naturally, red gerbera daisies bloom only during springtime, but they	15 to 45 cm	Easy

can be found all year long in florist shops.

Planting and care

Planting transplants from a garden store or nursery is the best way to plant gerbera daisy, as the plants are undependable and difficult to propagate from seed. Gerbera daisies thrive in well-drained soil improved by the addition of 2 to 3 inches of compost or manure.

While the plants tolerate full sunlight, they perform at their best when exposed to morning sunlight and afternoon shade. When planting gerberas, ensure the crown of the plant - the point where the main stem joins the roots - is planted about 1 inch above the surface of the soil. This step is critical as gerberas tend to suffocate if the crown is buried.

Sunlight	Soil	Water	Temperature	Fertilizer
Place your gerberas in a sunny windowsill where they can get approximately six hours of sunlight per day. Find a semi-shaded area outside if you are growing them outdoors - a shaded patio or veranda is ideal.	Check the soil of the site. If it is heavy or clay-like, you will need to amend it with compost, peat moss and sand. Gerbera flowers grow best in areas with slightly sandy, well-drained soil. Once you've amended the soil, dig holes for your gerbera plants that are about a foot apart. These holes should be twice as wide as the flower's original container but no deeper. Planting any part of the gerbera's stem can cause the flower to rot. After planting the flowers, pack in the remaining soil firmly and water thoroughly.	Water thoroughly, then allow top 1 inch (2.5 cm) to dry out between watering.	Cool to average 55-75°F/13-24°C.	Feed every 2 weeks while in bloom with a balanced liquid fertilizer diluted by half.

Caring for Gerbera

- Make sure your red gerbera daisies are watered properly.
- Leave time for the soil to dry before you water them again, keep the soil moist, not too wet.
- Also, remove any dead head immediately after you notice it, as new blooms should be encouraged.
- Place your gerberas in a sunny windowsill where they can get approximately six hours of sunlight per day.
- Find a semi-shaded area outside if you are growing them outdoors -- a shaded patio or veranda is ideal.
- Expose your gerberas to average local temperatures.
- Avoid temperatures above 70 degrees Fahrenheit, if possible, since heat may cause your gerberas to stop blooming.
- If you can't provide your gerberas with a shaded outdoor area, move them indoors during the hottest hours of the day.
- Water your gerbera plants in the morning.
- Avoid wetting the flowers -- moisten the soil that the plants grow in.
- Allow the soil to dry before watering again.
- Avoid over watering your gerberas as this may trigger poor flower growth and root or crown rot.
- Fertilize your gerberas every other week during the spring and summer flowering period.
- Use a water-soluble fertilizer that's rich in potassium and phosphorous.
- Mist the leaves of your gerbera plants with water at least once a week to increase the humidity and prevent red spider mites.
- Remove old, discoloured leaves and faded flowers and stems to maintain your gerbera plants, prevent fungus infections and to encourage new growth.

Typical uses of Gerbera

Special features:

Culinary use: na

Ornamental use: The plant is used for ornamental purpose

Medicinal use: na

References