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PLANT CARE GUIDE

Poinsettias



LIGHT

Bright natural light but not in direct bright sun. Put in area with limited drafts.



TEMPERATURE

62°-72° are ideal, no cold or excessively hot drafts.



SOIL

Well-draining potting soil.



WATERING

Water as needed: keep evenly moist, but not soaked & do not let soil dry out. Empty tray under plant or pierce plastic decorative foil or wrap to prevent roots standing in stagnant water.



HUMIDITY

Keep air relatively moist but do not spritz bracts (colorful leaves).



FERTILIZATION

None unless you want to rebloom your poinsettia for next season.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

While poinsettias are not poisonous, as commonly thought, ingesting leaves could cause discomfort.

Poinsettias should not be exposed to freezing conditions for long (even in wrapping). Do not leave your poinsettias in your car while you finish shopping in temps below 45°- 50°, chilled leaves will drop. Immediately, unwrap your poinsettia from protective wrap when you arrive at your location.

HOW TO REFLOWER POINSETTIAS

Just remember: if you seem to lose interest along the way, you are in the company of many others. This process requires a lot of dedication and effort.

February – Light. Your poinsettia may begin to fade in color. Keep your plant in indirect light.

April – Trimming. During the middle of April, cut the stems to approximately 6" above the soil.

May – Fertilizing. Start fertilizing with a balanced fertilizer every 3rd watering.

June – Repotting time? Remove the plant and check to see if it needs repotting (if it has an abundance of roots). If you do repot, use potting soil and a little larger pot. The pot may be placed outside in light shade when the temperature does not fall below 55° or you can leave the plant inside.

Middle of August – Inside Care. The plant should be kept inside in direct sunlight. Cut the stems back again, this time leaving three or four leaves per stem. Continue to water and fertilize.

Middle of September to the first of December. The plant should stay in the direct sunlight (next to a window) until 5:00pm. From 5:00pm to 8:00am the plant should be placed in complete darkness. Achieve darkness by putting the plant in a closet or putting the plant in a light-tight box. This should go on for 10 weeks. Remember: if the plant gets any light during the dark periods, it may not color correctly.



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