

How to look after your hanging baskets

Part of the Pacific Nurseries
'How to...' series

The size of your basket is important and although large baskets are the most spectacular and can house the greatest number of plants, they will take up a lot of space and be very heavy when the plants are mature and well watered.

The ideal basket is strong but lightweight. Some baskets are sold already lined with plastic so remember to pierce this before use.

Liners: What you line your basket with is a matter of personal choice. The traditional material is moss; other materials include recycled sisal, coir and pressed cardboard. Remember once the planting is mature the liner will be virtually invisible. As a general rule you need to plant up your basket 6-10 weeks before hanging.

Compost: For a general mix basket, the most widely and successfully used is a multipurpose. Other options are peat free, hanging basket and loam based. Whatever compost you choose, you can cut down on watering by adding water-retaining gels. Most compost contains some plant food but this is usually exhausted after 6 weeks. To keep plants flowering well always add some slow release fertiliser.

Planting: The aim, when planting a hanging basket, is to use as many plants as you can for optimum impact.

Don't forget: Hanging baskets need a certain amount of regular care to give the display maximum colour. Crammed into the basket, they are all competing for water, light and nutrients. Even if you added water retaining gel, you will need to water every day, twice during the long, hot, summer days. Regularly remove faded flowers to encourage further flowers rather than expending their energies on seed production.

Alternatively - ask us!

We can remove all the risk involved in creating the perfect hanging basket. We will plant your basket or container, to your specifications, ready for instant impact.



Remember to water every day, even when it has been raining.

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