

Gardenia

Gardenia is sometimes called cape jasmine. It is an evergreen shrub with greyish bark and dark green shiny leaves with prominent veins. The white flowers bloom in spring and summer and are highly fragrant.

The plant originated in Asia where it is not uncommon to be found growing in the wild. Gardenia is widely used in gardens in temperate and subtropical climates, or as a houseplant.

Gardenia has been in cultivation in China for at least a thousand years. Many varieties have been bred for horticulture, with low growing, and large flowering forms.

Gardenias do well in large pots on decks and patios. Depending on the variety, gardenia plants can bloom profusely over a long time from mid-spring to late summer.



Gardenia Care



Light Gardenias can handle full sun, but need protection from baking effect of the or afternoon sun. North and east-facing exposures are ideal because they will receive bright morning light and some midday light, but won't be in full sun during the absolute heat of the day.



Temperature Gardenias perform best in daytime temperatures between 65-70°F (18-21°C.) and high temperatures of 60-65°F (15-18°C). Flower buds will fail to form if the temperature fall out of this range.



Watering Gardenias grow best when they receive at least one inch of water per week or the equivalent. Constant moisture is a must for gardenias. If your area is not receiving a steady rainfall, water them deeply once a week. Gardenias are not drought-tolerant, but they dislike soggy roots. It's essential that you plant them in well-drained soil, but with an organic matter mix to help them retain moisture.



Humidity Gardenia need a humid growing environment. This can be difficult to achieve if you are trying to grow gardenias indoors. To raise humidity, use a humidifier placed near the plants in the room where the plants are growing. Misting the leaves is a temporary relief, but doing this will encourage the spread of fungal diseases.



Bloom Care Cut off faded gardenia flowers right below the leaf node to promote continuous blooming. Indoor gardenias will grow flower buds, but the buds will usually drop off before opening. Placing the plant in an extended window where the sun reaches the plants on three sides will give you the best chance of getting gardenias to bloom indoors.



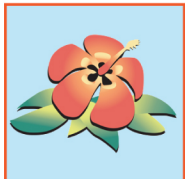
Fertilizer Feed gardenias monthly during the growing season (March-October) with a diluted fertilizer for acid loving plants. Do not fertilize gardenias from November-February.



Insects Gardenias attract mites, mealybugs, and whiteflies. Treat these unwanted pests with an insecticidal soap or horticultural oil.

Growers

J&R Exotic Foliage



Four Seasons
GARDENIA

The new Four Seasons Gardenia will give you beautiful blooms anytime of year



LIGHT
SUN

This plant prefers a lot of sunlight.



WATER
KEEP MOIST

Do not allow the soil to dry out.



HARDINESS
ZONE 8

Intolerant of temps below 20 degrees F.



GROWTH HABIT
UPRIGHT

The plant has an upward growth habit.



MATURE SIZE
2' to 12'



BLOOM
SUMMER

Produces blooms through summer.



PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS

Gardenias require a slightly acidic soil (pH between 5.0 - 6.5) It's wise to test the soil to make sure the plant will survive. In addition to the right pH, the best soil for gardenias is a lightweight soil that is full of organic matter with good moisture retention.