

Cultural Information – Rhizomatous Begonia

(bah-GO-nyah)

Hardy to Zone 10 and higher for outdoors.

Partial sun, grows to 8-14" in container, minimum temperature indoors 60°, blooms in winter.

<u>Light:</u>	Partial sun, an eastern or western exposure.
<u>Temperature:</u>	Maintain temperatures indoors above 60°.
<u>Humidity:</u>	Preferably 50% or higher; however, they will tolerate low levels of humidity for a short time.
<u>Watering:</u>	Bring soil to a state of visual dryness between waterings. When watering, thoroughly saturate the soil until some water runs out of the bottom of the pot. Clay pots will ensure a quick dry down. Do not over water.
<u>Fertilizer:</u>	Moderate feeders when grown under high light. Fertilize with ¼ tsp of fertilizer per gallon of water once a week during the summer or when actively growing. Use a balanced fertilizer like a 15-15-15 or 7-9-5.
<u>Pruning:</u>	Pinch the tips of the young plants to encourage branching. This will help create a bushy plant and discourage leggy growth. On older plants the rhizomes can be cut back to fill the center of the pots and to contain their size.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	Little susceptibility to insects, however mildew can be a problem. Treat seasonally with a preventative spray of 1 TBL of baking soda to a quart of water with a dribble of dishwashing soap.
<u>Comments:</u>	Rhizomatous are strong growers. They need good light to grow well. Give them some direct sunlight.

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