

Cultural Information – Myrtus
(MER-tus)

Hardy to Zone 10 and higher for outdoors.
Full or partial sun, grows 12-24" in container, minimum temperature 35°, blooms in summer.

<u>Light:</u>	Grow in a bright window. Full or partial sun, a southern, eastern or western exposure.
<u>Temperature:</u>	Minimum temperatures down to 32° or higher.
<u>Humidity:</u>	Preferably 50% or higher; however, they will tolerate low levels with no harm.
<u>Watering:</u>	Water when the soil is visually dry, when watering, thoroughly saturate the soil until some water trickles out of the bottom of the pot. Growing in a clay pot will help ensure a healthy root system.
<u>Fertilizer:</u>	Go easy on the fertilizer. Use ¼ tsp of fertilizer per gallon of water once a month. Use a balanced fertilizer like a 15-15-15 or a blooming fertilizer like a 7-9-5. Excessive fertilization can create difficulties in culture, so it is best to err on the lean side.
<u>Pruning:</u>	As topiaries, periodic pruning is necessary to maintain shape. When the form begins to look ragged, simply cut back young growth close to the last cut. Myrtus responds admirably to hard pruning, even when cut into stems that have no foliage.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	For the most part, few insects bother them. They do, however, have a susceptibility to root disease, which can be controlled by proper culture, especially watering and fertilization.