

Cultural Information – Pelargonium

(pel-ar-GOH-nee-um)

Hardiness zone depends on variety.

Full sun, maximum height depends on variety; some are cascading, others are upright growers, minimum temperature 40°, blooming season depends on variety.

<u>Light:</u>	Full sun, a southern exposure, is necessary for best floral production.
<u>Temperature:</u>	Maintain indoor temperatures above 40°. However, 65° or higher will create better results during the winter months.
<u>Humidity:</u>	Preferably 50% or higher; however, they will tolerate low levels with no harm. Periods of high humidity do encourage foliage diseases.
<u>Watering:</u>	Bring soil to a state of visual dryness between watering. When watering, thoroughly saturate soil until a little water runs out of the bottom of the pot. Growing in a clay pot will help maintain a healthy root system.
<u>Fertilizer:</u>	Fertilize with ½ tsp of fertilizer per gallon of water once a week. Use a balanced fertilizer like a 15-15-15 or a blooming fertilizer like a 7-9-5. If leaves become pale or older leaves turn yellow and fall excessively, increase fertilizer to twice a week until they green up. Discontinue during the winter or when light levels are low.
<u>Pruning:</u>	Any time growth is excessive.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	Insects are generally not a problem. However, they are susceptible to foliage and root disease. Be attentive to watering and provide drier air.
<u>Comments</u>	They make wonderful indoor plants because the home environment is conducive to their humidity requirements.

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