



Caladium Planting Guide

About Caladium

Caladiums are tropical foliage plants that provide a splash of color in summer flower beds. They grow well in shaded areas, containers, hanging baskets, and as borders. Tropical plants that are native to Brazil, caladiums are easy to grow in warm, shady, humid environments. They can grow to a full height of 12" to 30" in one season!

When to Plant

If you wish to give your caladiums a head start, you may plant them indoors 6 weeks before the last frost date. If you start outdoors, make sure the soil is warm before planting. The night temperature must reach the high 60's or warmer on a consistent basis.

Where to Plant

Finding the right location is important, and well-draining soil is a must. Partial sunlight is best for outdoor caladium. Caladiums love shady areas! Caladiums also like rich soil. If the soil is poor, add generous amounts of compost and manure. Lastly, plant the caladiums where they will not be affected by strong wind. Too much wind can damage the plants leaves.

How to Plant

Plant the bulbs in holes that are 3-4 inches deep, allowing 1.5 - 2 inches of soil to cover them. Caladiums have a smooth bottom side and a knobby top side. Gently place the caladium in the ground, with the knobby side pointing up. Add a little bone meal to the soil and plant other bulbs about 4-12 inches apart depending on the size of the bulb.

Water generously to encourage the caladium to take root. Caladiums should be kept moist during germination, without allowing the soil to become soggy. Once they break ground, it is easy to tell when to water as they will droop when thirsty.

Caring for Caladium

Caladiums Grow well with little care or attention. Fertilize outdoors once a month with a general purpose fertilizer. Indoors, use a liquid fertilizer every couple of weeks.