



California Poppy Planting Guide

About California Poppies

The California Poppy, a vigorous bloomer, is highly drought-tolerant and tends to perform well in just about any environment -- even arid and inhospitable ones. These beauties are easy to grow and require virtually no care.

When to Plant

We highly recommend sowing seeds directly in the garden at the last spring frost date, but if necessary to start your seeds indoors, do so 2-3 weeks prior to the last frost. California Poppies do not like their roots disturbed and therefore should not be transplanted.

Where to Plant

California Poppies perform best in full sun, in sandy, poor to average, well-drained soils. They are heat and drought tolerant and are lovely additions to beds and borders, containers, rock gardens, and along paths or walkways.

How to Plant

If needed, add 2" of compost to your soil to promote drainage. Sow seeds shallowly with just 1/16" layer of soil to cover them, spaced about 6-8" apart. Seedlings should sprout in 14-21 days. Thin seedlings to about 8" apart.

Caring for California Poppies

Water your seedlings daily if the soil dries out. To display California Poppies as cut flowers, harvest blooms before the buds open completely.