



Chinese Lantern Planting Guide

About Chinese Lanterns

Sometimes known as Strawberry Ground Cherry, Chinese Lanterns feature delicate flowers with the tell-tale orange seed pod that looks like a glowing orange lantern. As it can be aggressive, many gardeners recommend confining its growth. The pods dry well and are excellent in dried floral arrangements.

When to Plant

Start seeds indoors 6-8 weeks before the last frost or once the danger of frost has passed, chinese lanterns may be direct sown outdoors.

Where to Plant

Chinese lanterns prefer full sun or partial shade, and moist, well-drained soils. These plants are well suited for beds and borders, cottage gardens, and container planting. Chinese lanterns spread quickly and also make an excellent ground cover.

How to Plant

Sow your seeds directly onto the surface of the soil, and compress. Do not cover your seeds, as they will require sunlight to germinate. Chinese Lanterns are a prolific seeder, so keep that in mind as you select your site. This variety takes notoriously long to germinate, as long as 3-4 weeks.

Caring for Chinese Lanterns

It is essential you keep the soil moist for Chinese Lanterns. If the plants become leggy, it's alright to cut them back so they can start fresh. Once they die back at the end of the season, cut the growth back down all the way to the surface of the soil.