



## Peony Planting Guide

### About Peonies

Peonies are one of the most irresistible flowers we can think of. Their intoxicating fragrance fills the air around them, practically begging to be noticed-though it's impossible not to. Large, lush, silky blossoms invite you to stop and truly take a moment to appreciate the beauty of nature.

These show-stopping perennials, attract pollinators, make beautiful cut flowers, and get better every year.

### When to Plant

Plant in spring or fall.

### Where to Plant

For best results, plant peonies where they will receive full sun. While peonies will survive in moderate shade, they will not bloom as well. At least 6 hours of full sun is recommended.

Find a location where the soil is well-draining. Peonies prefer soil that provides average moisture, but not water-logged. Keep in mind that peonies will live for years, so adding nutrients in the form of compost to the soil is a good idea. Natural fertilizers work better than chemical fertilizers for peonies.

### How to Plant

Plant groups of bulbs 3 feet apart so that the roots have enough space to grow. Dig holes that are about 8 inches apart and 12 inches deep. Peony bulbs should be placed face up in the holes and loosely covered with soil, about 2 inches above the buds. Gently tamp down the soil. There should be no part of the root showing. Immediately after planting, water generously, soaking the soil.

### Caring for Peonies

Watering heavily on a weekly basis is usually more beneficial to peonies than a light watering every couple of days.

As fall arrives, the leaves will yellow and then wilt. We recommend dividing the bulbs in the fall by digging them up and cutting them into sections. Ideally, do this after the first frost has killed the foliage.