

HARDY MUMS

CARE TIPS



Mums in plastic pots should be gently removed from the pots before planting.

Central Ohio's soil is heavy clay, so the addition of peat moss and/or compost will help your mums to grow better by improving the drainage of the soil.

Mums should be watered throughout the growing season whenever they are dry. How often will depend upon the rainfall and temperature levels for a given season.

Winter survival involves the following procedures:

1. Do not prune back prior to winter - the dead stems help to protect the crowns.
2. Lightly mulch with straw.
3. Prune back tops mid to late April.

When the new growth appears in the spring, it's time to fertilize. This is an ideal time to fertilize since your mums will be growing very rapidly during the spring and early summer seasons.

Begin pinching mums in the spring and continue until mid July. This will cause the plant to grow more full and bushy, and as a result, more flower buds will develop.

After a couple years of growth, your mums may need to be divided:

1. Dig the root system in spring.
2. Use a sharp knife or shovel to divide a 12" clump into 2 or 3 smaller clumps. These can then be replanted.