

How to grow: Clematis

WHERE TO PLANT

Clematis needs a location with at least 5 or 6 hours of sunlight. Clematis roots are deep, and like it cool and damp. Plant groundcover around the roots or select the shady side of a wall or fence where vines can climb into sunlight.

HOW TO PLANT

Loosen soil where you are going to plant and add cotton bol compost to the soil. Place crown at soil level. Provide support with a fence, trellis, pole or similar structure. Always handle with care. Clematis stems are extremely fragile!

CARE AFTER PLANTING

Water freely the first year. In subsequent years soak well once a week in dry weather. Mulch to retain moisture in summer. Also mulch in winter to prevent the roots from freezing.

FERTILIZING

Feed twice a year with a balanced granular fertilize, or a good water soluble fertilizer that will get to the plant much quicker

PRUNING

Prune the first spring after planting to 6-12 inches from the ground. This is very important to get the Clematis vine off to a low branching and heavily flowering form. Shoot tips may be pinched during late spring to induce additional branching. For pruning advice on individual varieties consult the chart on the back page.



VARIETY	COLORS	VINE	FLOWER	TIME OF BLOOM	ATTRIBUTES	PRUNING
Alba Luxurians	white	8-12'	4-8"	June, July & Sept.		2
Barbara Jackman	blue flowers with reddish bars	6-10'	6-8"	May, June & Sept.	Good cut flower	2
Dr. Ruppel	deep rose pink with carmine bars	6-10'	6-8"	May, June & Sept.	Good cut flower	2
Ernest Markham	magenta red flowers, red stamens	12-15'	4-6"	July, Aug. & Sept.	Very robust grower	3
Etoile Violet	deep violet	8-12'	4-8"	June, July & Sept.		2
General Sikorsky	deep blue flower, cream stamen	10-12'	7-9"	June & Sept.	Good cut flower	2
Jackmanii	velvety deep blue flowers, cream stamens	12-15'	5-6"	June, July & Sept.	Most profuse blooming dark purple	3
Lanuginosa Candida	pure white, cream stamens	8-12'	7-9"	June, July & Sept.	Many sepals, look of double flowers	2
Madame Julie	rose red	8-12'	4-8"	June, July & Sept.		2
Maria Boisselot	pure white flowers, cream stamens	12-15'	6-7"	June & Sept.	Good cut flower	2
Nelly Moser	pale mauve pink flowers, reddish bars	6-8'	6-8"	May, June, Aug. & Sept.	Good cut flower	2
Niobe	velvety dark red flowers, Cream stamens	4-6'	6-8"	June, Aug. & Sept.		2
Paniculata (Sweet Autumn)	sweet scented cream blooms, cream stamens	15-20'	1/4-1/2"	Sept.	Fragrant	1
Pink Champagne	deep rosy pink flowers, cream stamens	7-8'	5-6"	May through June	Also known as kakio	2
Proteus	soft mauve double and single flower	10-12'	6-8"	May-June Aug.-Sept.	Double flower	2
Will Goodwin	powder blue flower, wavy edges	10-12'	6-8"	June Through Sept.	Good cut flower	2

PRUNING TECHNIQUES- Match number on the chart with the pruning technique listed below

1. This group of clematis produce their flowers directly from old stem and, therefore, pruning must not be done until right after all flowering has been completed. Prune this group by removing all dead and weak stems immediately after flowering. Large established plants over 15 feet are normally not pruned, especially if they are growing in trees. All stems at this time should be tied into position on the trellis or host. Also, if the clematis has out grown their space the correct and only time to prune is right after flowering is done. After pruning, new growth will begin the stems for next years growth.
2. In this group all first flowering comes from last seasons ripened stems. In early Spring watch for swelling leaf buds beginning to show. Cut all dead material off above these swelling buds. Be sure all growth is tied to trellis etc. at this time. Do not tie tightly, so growth can begin and not hampered by tying to tight or cracking stems.
3. This group blooms later and from new growth. This should be pruned in February or March as new leaf buds begin to show low on the plant. All dead material above these buds should be removed at this time. Clean out any foliage or foliage with mildew at this time.