

VALE'S GREENHOUSE



Quality Plants For The Chinook Zone

301 – 3rd St. N.W., Black Diamond, Alberta

933-4814

GENERAL CARE OF CONTAINERS



A beautiful container

EXPOSURE

Plant each container with plants that have similar needs. Do not plant a shade plant in a container that you are going to put on the south side of your house. Determining whether your container prefers sun or shade is the secret for success:

- Full Sun means container is in direct sunlight for at least 8 hours.
- Part Shade means your container needs shade during the hottest part of the day. Morning sun or filtered light under a tree is ideal.
- Shade means the container hardly ever sees the sun at all. North exposure or under an overhang or porch is suitable for these easily sunburned plants.

WATERING

How often water is needed depends on the weather, the exposure of the container to sun, the size of the container, and the water requirements of the plants in the container. If the plant has succulent leaves such as portulaca, it will need less water than a very thirsty plant such as felicia.

When watering, fill to the brim of the pot and then wait until soil feels dry on top before re-watering. Too much is as bad as not enough. If growing tips of plants start to droop, it is an indication of being too dry.

If plants are allowed to become over-dry the soil ball will shrink, allowing water to run down the side of the pot without soaking in. Either set the container in a wide bucket of water until water is absorbed or water slowly with dripping hose until soil is wet all the way through.

FERTILIZING

A water soluble fertilizer such as 20-20-20 is recommended once a week all summer. Flowering usually occurs on new growth so keeping the plant in active growth promotes more blooms. Follow directions on the packet. Do not over fertilize. If roots are burned with chemicals, plants will die.

CLEANING AND PINCHING

Keeping dead flowers and seed pods picked off will produce a steady supply of blooms all summer. Pinching tips of leggy plants will keep them bushy and flowering. It is natural for the lower leaves of some plants to turn yellow. These should be cleaned off as they appear.

INSECT PESTS

Constant monitoring and early control by finger and thumb is your first line of defense. First identify the pest before applying the appropriate spray.

