



# Poinsettia Care

The holiday season wouldn't be complete without a poinsettia or two to brighten your home. Our poinsettias come in a range of color from the palest of pink to the deepest red. With tender loving care, they'll remain healthy throughout the season.

## Selection

Select plants with green foliage all the way down the stems. This is a good indication the plants have active, healthy roots. Look for plants with small, green buttons (cyathia) in the center of the colored bracts. These buttons will eventually develop into little yellow flowers.

## Care Tips

- 1 When transporting your plants home, protect them from temperatures below 50 degrees. Chilling cause the leaves to drop and red bracts to take on a bluish tint.
- 2 Place in a room where there's enough natural light to read. Poinsettias need at least 6 hours daily of bright, indirect light to thrive.
- 3 Water plants thoroughly when you get them home. Please note: Before watering, slash the pot cover or festive foil so water can drain out. Saturate the entire soil area until you see water seeping through the drain hole. Never allow your points to sit in water.
- 4 Check plants daily and water only when the soil feels dry to the touch (usually once or twice a week).
- 5 Keep plants away from drafts, radiators and hot air registers.
- 6 To prolong bright color of bracts, temperatures should not exceed 72 degrees during the day or 60 degrees at night.

## Steps for Preparing Color Next Year

Many toss their poinsettias after the holiday season is over, but Poinsettias can be kept to bloom again next holiday season.

- 1 Once bracts have faded or dropped, cut stems back 1 to 2 inches from the base.
- 2 Decrease watering and allow soil to get almost, but not completely dry.
- 3 Keep the plant in this dormant stage in the same light and temperature conditions until around April. Begin watering again as you notice new growth.
- 4 Repot original plant in a new (same size) container using Sloat Organic Potting Soil. Fertilize monthly with Maxsea 16-16-16 until September. (The soil needs to be refreshed. To do that, the root ball needs to be roughed up, old soil dumped, and fresh soil used to repot the plant.)
- 5 In October, give your plant at least 14 hrs. of total darkness per day for about 8 weeks to encourage bracts to color up.

**We'll help you grow the plants you love!**

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