

Tips for Success

How Do I Know If I Have Them In Enough Sunlight?: If they appear leggy, then they are receiving too little sunlight. Too little light in hanging baskets will cause them to grow tall and leggy and not cascade over the container sides. If you notice the leaves are brown or yellow on the edges, this could mean they're getting too much sun and it is burning the foliage. They do best in partial sunlight and avoid locations with dense shade. They will thrive with bright morning light or afternoon filtered sunlight.

Can I Start These Inside My Home?: Yes. Tuberous begonias grown from this bulb-like structure can be started indoors. You will want to start them in smaller or one bulb per 4-6 inch pot and begin them 4-8 weeks before the frost-free date for your area. Plants usually reach their flowering stage 3 months from planting.

What Does The Picotee Begonias Entail?: Picotee form begonias are specific varieties containing ruffled edges with distinctive darker or lighter coloration on the edges.

Determining The Bottom Or The Top Of Bulb: The rounded side of the bulb with the roots is the bottom side. The top side is the concave side and they may have little eyes or buds too.

My Bulbs Are Slow To Come Up: Make sure that you planted them shallow covering with only about half to one quarter an inch of soil. You might want to make sure that they were planted with the top side up.



Roberta's Gardens PLANTING AND GROWING GUIDE



Picotee Begonia
Begonia hybrids

We aren't happy if you aren't happy. If you have any questions regarding your order please call us at **1-800-428-9726** during the hours of 8:30 am and 4:30 pm EST.

You can email questions to us at: plantquestions@robertasinc.com.

If your bulbs, cuttings, etc. do not sprout, or your plant dies within 90 days from the date of shipment, we will send you a replacement free of charge. We cannot accept responsibility for losses due to extreme weather or neglect. Simply call us at the above toll tree number or fill out the plant replacement form on our website at RobertasUniqueGardens.com.

Roberta's will replace it with a similar or comparable plant at no charge. If your replacement is not available or it is too late in the season to ship, it will ship the following year.

Annual and Tropical Plants

*Thank You
for bringing us into
your home*

Roberta's Unique Gardens

P.O. Box 368, Waldron, IN 46182

Monday – Friday 8:30^{AM} – 4:30^{PM} EST

RobertasUniqueGardens.com


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Quick Reference

 **Plant Type:** Tender Perennial
(Annual)

 **Light/Sun:** Partial Sun to
Partial Shade

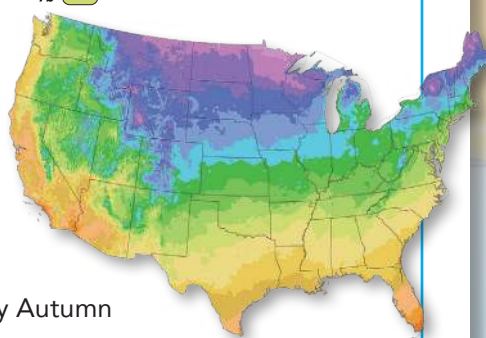
 **Mature Height:** 15-20"

 **Mature Spread:** 8-12"
(cluster 3-4 bulbs per sq. ft.)

 **Bloom Time:** Mid Summer to Early Autumn

 **USDA Hardiness Zones:** 8 to 11

9a to 11 7a 6a 5a
8a to 8b 6b 5bs to 5bn 3a to 4b
7b



Plant Caretaking

Upon Arrival: Please take the tubers out of the paper bag and box immediately, especially if you plant to plant them right away. You can plant them immediately in pots. If planting them into the garden itself, wait until the ground is permanently thawed and you've cleared any threat of frost.

Planting Depth & Spacing: Lightly plant bulbs about 3/4 to 1 inch deep, being careful not to bury them too deep. Cover with only about 1/4 to 1/2 inch of soil or potting mix. inches deep and about 2-3 inches apart from one another. Alternatively, you may dig wider holes and plant 10-12 bulbs per square foot. Plant bulbs with the pointy side facing upwards so that their foliage is growing in that direction. They only grow outward, so if you find they're growing the wrong direction, dig up and replant.

Potted Plants: You may plant one bulb into an 8" container or combine together into larger pots. You may plant more bulbs into a larger container if desired. Leave about 4 inches of spacing between the tubers and the pot's side or edge. Space the bulbs 6 inches apart too. Sprouts in 4-6 weeks! It is best to add fresh soil or pot up in the following spring as the tubers grow significantly in size every year.

Soil Preparation: Grow in fertile, moist but well-drained soil. Amend clay type of soils with compost or potting mix.

Watering: Water thoroughly upon planting and a couple times a week all summer long. Water when the soil begins to dry. The tubers will rot if they are overwatered and soil remains soggy, or stems may snap off at the base.

Fertilizer: Use Roberta's Bounty about twice a month once they have sprouted and fertilize all summer long.

Lighting: Partial sun is preferred. Full sun will burn the foliage and flowers. Refrain from siting these in full, dense shade. An ideal location might be one that receives morning sun or sunlight filtered during the day by trees.

Winter Dormancy: In late autumn, when leaves fall off and stems separate easily from the tubers, they're ready for storage. Cut plants back to the ground. You can leave them in containers in a cool, dark spot, where temperatures remain above 35 degrees. Refrain from watering until the following spring. Or you can lift the tubers and store them within a paper bag or cardboard box and in dry peat moss in a cool, frost free place until next spring.

Propagation: These tubers will bloom every summer in the mid to late June into October time period. After 2-3 years, in the spring or fall, you may divide the bulbs into small divisions and replant. This is not necessary. At a minimum pot up annually or add fresh soil each year to potted plants.

Planting Steps

Step 1 Remove the bulbs from the paper bag and box. If you're unable to plant them right away, you can keep them inside the paper bag and store them in a cool, dry location around 50-65F.

Step 2 Plant in the garden when evening temperatures average between 40-50F degrees. You may plant one tuber per 8 inch container or two to three bulbs per 12-14 inch pot. Pots really need to have drainage holes too. Plant the rounded side down with concave side up. The eyes or buds should be facing upwards and just underneath the soil. The roots will also be on the bottom side. You may cluster 3-4 bulbs per square foot and when planting directly into the garden, do so when the frost is over. Partial sun is best!



Step 3 Cover the top of bulbs with only 1/4 or 1/2 inches soil. Do not bury them too deep. Water the bulbs thoroughly and then begin a regular watering routine.

Step 4 In pots, you may place plants outside in partial sun as long as evening temperatures stay above 45F degrees.

Step 5 Be patient as they typically take 4-6 weeks to sprout and a little longer if the temperatures are still cool. Planted now each tuber will grow quickly, reaching full maturity in one season and blooming in midsummer. Generally they will take 10-12 weeks from their initial planting to flower!

