

Tips for Success

Water: Water your plants immediately after taking them out of the box. Give them enough water so that the soil appears damp and water trickles out the bottom of the pot. Plants prefer a moist, humid environment. Placing plant on a humidity tray is helpful. Misting is also very beneficial, especially in the winter when homes are often more dry.

Plants look Dry or Foliage appears Lackluster: Sometimes plants may appear dried out and wilted after the voyage. Do not despair. When this happens the foliage may look lackluster but the rootstock is still perfectly healthy and alive. To plump your plants back up, water them and wait 5 minutes and then water them again. This will generally rehydrate them. Keep these plants well-watered until you can re-plant them into larger containers or in the garden within the next week. If plants arrive dry, it is often because the roots have outgrown the small shipping pots and need more room to grow; roots tend to dry out quickly in small containers. Your plants are very much alive and when you transplant them into larger pots or the earth, they will start growing quickly! So, re-plant them as soon as possible. Remove any yellow or brown foliage by cutting at the base of the stem near the soil.

Monstera adansonii: This plant is called the Swiss Cheese plant because the foliage has perforations like a slice of Swiss Cheese, creating a very unique look inside the home!

Climbing or Trailing?: This plant will both climb and trail if given the space. To encourage climbing, add either bamboo stakes to your pot or a thicker moss pole placed directly in the center of the pot. To encourage trailing, you may grow in a hanging basket or on a ledge or pedestal. The most fun is seeking to achieve both climbing and trailing for a luxurious lush look.

Propagation: This house plant is a cinch to propagate. To make more of these plants, simply cut a leaf with a few inches of the stem and place the cut stem in a glass of water. After 4-8 weeks you will see roots forming. You may then transplant into a pot of soil at this time and you will be on your way to a brand new plant!



Roberta's Gardens PLANTING AND GROWING GUIDE



Monstera Swiss Cheese House Plant
Monstera adansonii

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:** Tropical

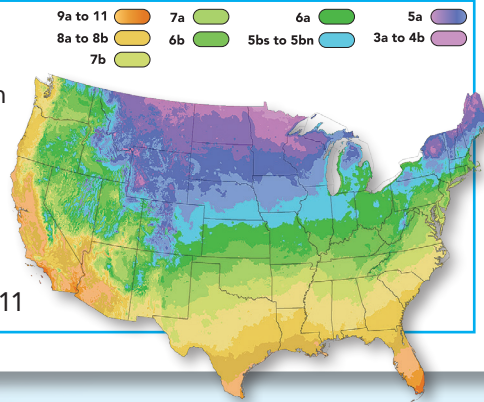
 **Light/Sun:** Full to Partial Sun

 **Mature Height:** 24-36"

 **Mature Spread:** 12-18"

 **Bloom Time:** n/a

 **USDA Hardiness Zones:** 10 to 11



Plant Caretaking

Upon Arrival: Please take plants out of the box immediately and remove any shipping materials from around the plants. Give them some water and place them in a warm sunny area for 1-2 days before replanting.

Planting Depth & Spacing: These are House Plants and should be planted in containers, unless you live where winter temperatures never dip below 55F. Dig a deep enough hole so that the entire plant easily fits into the hole and the top of the soil line of your plant is flush with the top of the soil in the hole you have dug. It is important that the soil line of your plant does not protrude above the soil line in the container.

Potted Plants: Make sure your container has holes to allow excess water to drain. Place one plant in a 6-12" container, or you may plant multiple together in a larger pot.

Soil Preparation: Any rich bagged potting mix for houseplants is fine. You may find special indoor plant potting mix, and that is also great, as long as the soil is new and drains well. Adding Peat to the potting mix can help with water retention, which the Monstera will appreciate.

Watering: It is important to make sure young plants do not experience long periods of dryness. Monstera prefers to maintain a moist, but not sopping wet soil during the warm, active growing season. In the winter, allow the top inch of soil to dry out before watering. This is not a drought tolerant plant.

Fertilizer: Use Roberta's Bounty a couple weeks after planting and then once or twice a month all year long.

Pet Considerations: Ensure your pets do not consume plants.

Indoors / Outdoors: These plants are great houseplants that can be grown inside year round. Inside the home, partial diffused lighting is best. They do not need to be on the window sill of your sunniest window. A bright room is typically enough. You may place your plants outside during the summer time as long as evening temperatures remain above 55F. This will encourage robust growth. Keep out of direct sunlight while outside.

Winter Care: These plants need to stay warm during the winter. If you placed your plants outside during the summer, bring them back indoors once nights start to dip towards 55F. Plants may go into dormancy during the winter causing some leaf loss, this is normal. You can use a single LED bulb about 12-18" away from the plant during the cold, dark months to encourage continued growth.

Planting Steps

Step 1 Remove plants from their box and take off other packing materials. Open your box outside or somewhere you don't mind getting messy, as some of the soil may have been shaken loose in transit.

Step 2 Check if your plant is thirsty. They probably need a nice drink of water after their voyage. If the plant feels light or the soil is dry to the touch, give your plants a watering.

Step 3 Allow your plants time to adjust to their new home before re-planting by placing them in a warm sunny window for 1-2 days.

Step 4 Pull away or cut off any yellow or brown leaves, or any old flowers – this is normal.

Step 5 Transplant into containers as soon as possible. Dig holes the width of the root ball and deep enough so that the original top of the soil is flush with the new soil line. Water the new soil before and after planting your plant. This will help the young roots stay hydrated. Once you've placed your plant in the hole, fill in the rest of the hole with extra potting mix, ensuring the entire root system is covered with soil. Only plant directly in the ground if you live where winter temperatures stay above 55F.

