# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### ARE THESE GERANIUMS ANNUALS OR PERENNIALS?

The term Geranium has many references in the plant world. Oftentimes plants commonly called Geraniums are in fact Pelargoniums and are not part of the genus Geranium. This collection is comprised of true Geraniums that are all winter hardy perennials and will come back every year. A popular common name for these Geraniums is Cranesbill.

#### ARE THEY EVERGREEN OR DECIDUOUS?

In cold climates they are deciduous. In warmer regions they may maintain their foliage year round.

#### WHAT DO THEY LOOK LIKE IN FALL?

In autumn, the varieties in this collection will take on brilliant fall colors such as bright oranges and reds, just like your deciduous trees.

#### WHERE DO THEY LOOK BEST IN THE GARDEN?

These clump forming Geraniums grow about 1 to 2 feet wide and about 10 to 18 inches tall. This mounding habit makes them a favorite amongst rock garden where they can elegantly cascade, along perennials borders, amongst hedges, or as a medium high groundcover.

#### WHAT ARE SOME NICE COMPANION PLANTS?

Dianthus, thymus, sedum, leptodermis oblonga, viola, monarda, columbines, and heuchera all make excellent companions in the garden.

# FIRST THINGS FIRST...

When your plant arrives from Roberta's, remove from the shipping box immediately.

Remove plastic bag and/or sleeve from around potted plant(s). Discard any packing material clinging to the leaves or soil. Pull away any yellow or brown leaves that may have occurred during transit. If you cannot plant it into garden or larger pot within a few days, make sure it stays well watered.

When ready to plant, do the job as early in the day as possible to avoid extreme soil temperatures that prevent proper water uptake from the roots. Water them in well and whisper a few words of wisdom.







1-800-428-9726

Monday - Friday 8:30<sub>AM</sub> - 4:30<sub>PM</sub> EST

Thank you for bringing us into your home

#### www.robertasinc.com

@robertasgardens Roberta's Unique Gardens
Roberta's, P.O. Box 368, Waldron, IN 46182





Hardy Geraniums (Geranium Johnson's Blue & Geranium Sanguineum)



### QUICK REFERENCE PLANTING GUIDE

LIGHT/SUN EXPOSURE:	Full to Partial Sun
USDA HARDINESS ZONES:	4 to 9
PLANT TYPE	Perennial
PLANTING DISTANCE:	18-24 inches
MATURE HEIGHT/SPREAD:	10-18 inches 12-24 inches
BLOOM TIME:	Late Spring – Late Summer by 2nd season.
PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS: (soil preparation, depth, which end is up, etc.)	Remove plastic bag and/or sleeve from around potted plant(s). Discard any packing material clinging to the leaves or soil. Transplant into the garden as soon as evening temperatures stay above 40F.

# PLANTING GUIDE

Remove plastic bag and/or sleeve from around potted plant(s). Discard any packing material clinging to the leaves or soil. Pull away any yellow or brown leaves or spent flowers that may have occurred during transit. If you cannot plant it into garden or larger pot within a few days, make sure it stays well watered.

2 STEP Transplant into the garden as soon as evening temperatures stay above 40F. Dig holes twice the width of the root ball and about 5 to 6 inches deep. Place them in their holes. Pack soil firmly around roots. Fill with soil and pack in firmly covering entire root zone. Water again. Plants prefer partial sun or full sun.

S STEP Rather than in the garden you may re-pot into large containers. Repot the plants into at least 10 inch pots separately or together inside one larger container.

STEP

Planted now they will produce flowers in late spring to late summer by the second season.

## CONTINUING CARE

#### SHELF LIFE

Plant into garden or larger pots and place outside immediately after the night temperatures stay above 40 degrees.

#### PLANT PREPARATION

Remove plastic bag and sleeve from around potted plant(s). Discard any packing material clinging to the leaves or soil. Pull away any yellow or brown leaves that may have occurred during transit. If you cannot plant it into garden or larger pot within a few days, make sure it stays well watered.

#### SOIL

Amend clay type soils with compost or potting mix.

#### GARDEN PREPARATION

They prefer partial or full sun.

#### POTTED PLANTS

Rather than in the garden you may re-pot into large containers. Repot the plants into at least 10 inch pots separately or together inside one larger container.

#### PLANTING SPACING

If planting in garden space 18 to 24 inches apart.

#### PLANT HEIGHT AND WIDTH

These grow about 10 to 18 inches tall and 12 – 24 inches wide.

#### WATER

Water upon planting and just average during summer.

They respond to feeding with a high bloom fertilizer like Flower Magic plant food (M7503). Once a month is sufficient during spring and summer.

#### **TEMPERATURE ZONES 4 to 9**

When nights stay above 40 degrees, place your plants outside and leave them there. They can withstand winter temperatures to minus -25F.

#### LIGHTING

In the summer growing season, partial or full sun or partial sun is the absolute best.

#### BLOOMING

Under correct conditions, blooming begins in late spring to late summer by the second season.

#### PRUNING

Pruning is not necessary. However, if flowering seems to stall midsummer, a light prune can encourage new growth and new flowering

#### WINTER DORMANCY

There is really nothing to do to winterize them. Clumps may be ripped apart and divided in early fall, after 2 years. Just stick a trowel in the soil and dig them out.

## Additional Reference



Geranium Shipped as Shown



Established Johnson's Blue along a walkway



Wonderful periwinkle flowers all summer long



Sanguineum's bright magenta flowers



Gracious mounding habit