

## Planting and Care Instructions Peonies for Pot Culture

Information to help you be more successful with our Peonies

### Upon arrival

Open all cartons/crates immediately after arrival, as the plants need fresh air. Always check plants directly after arrival and take notes of possible problems. If there are any problems, be sure to contact your sales representative immediately. Plants should be planted as soon as possible after arrival. Growers should have greenhouse space, pots and planting medium ready. (Check bottom of confirmation for approximate arrival date). If plants cannot be planted immediately they should be stored in a cool location, preferably at a temperature around 35F, for 10 days max. Also make sure that you keep the cartons out of the sun and from too much ventilation, plants dry out very quickly.

Do not store the plants in closed boxes, as this will create condensation and might cause the roots to start rotting. If you detect this problem, make sure you take these plants out of the boxes. You cannot store these roots any longer they have to be potted immediately. If possible remove the infected parts or dip the roots in a fungicide prior to planting.

### Soil

Peonies prefer a pH range about 6.5 to 7.0. They do best in a high organic composted soil. We suggest using any bark-based, well-drained, commercial soil-less mix.

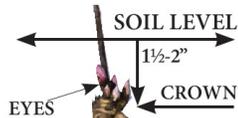
### Planting and Maintenance

For the right container size see the chart below. Peonies do not like to be disturbed and the more soil the better they will do when transferred into ground. More soil gives better water control and the roots will stay cooler. If you plan to keep the Peonies longer than 6 months before selling, we advise to scale up to a larger container.

Root Size	Growing time	
	<6 months	>6 months
2/3 Eye	1 Gallon	2-3 Gallon
3/5 Eye	2-3 Gallon	2-3 Gallon
6/8 Eye	2-3 Gallon	2-3 Gallon

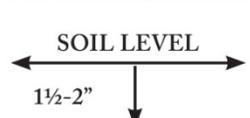
#### Intersectional Peonies

**CORRECT  
PLANTING DEPTH**



#### Garden Peonies

**CORRECT  
PLANTING DEPTH**



Plant the crown/eyes just below the soil level (1.5" under soil level). The number 1 reason for Peonies not flowering is planting the roots too deep!

### Light Conditions

It is best to plant in a location where the plants will receive at least 1/2 day of sunlight. Morning sun is the best. If too much sun, the flower will age faster.

**DE VROOMEN**  
GARDEN PRODUCTS

P.O. Box 189, Russell IL, 60075 U.S.A.  
Phone: +1 847 395 9911 Fax: +1 800 395 9920  
sales@devroomen.com



### **Watering**

Peonies require well-drained soil but also like to be watered down to the bottom of their roots. Let the soil dry out slightly between watering's

### **Location**

Tree Peonies are hardy from Zone 2 to 7. Partial shade area is the best location. Plants should always be grown in a well-ventilated area.

### **Fertilization:**

We recommend using a low rate fertilizer such as 18-6-8 at 100-150ppm at every other watering. Over-fertilization can inhibit flowering.

### **Temperature:**

It is best to over-winter potted Peonies in a covered structure such as a greenhouse or covered poly house. They require 500 to 700 hours at 32-37°F to be vernalized. After that, it is best to let them acclimate naturally to outdoor temperatures.

We recommend growing peonies cool, 45-50°F days and cold nights of 35-40°F. It may become necessary to run the fans in the greenhouse on sunny days to maintain this cooler temperature. When grown at higher temperatures, the plants slow their bud development and the flowers age faster.

### **Growing for multiple seasons:**

If you decide to grow the plants for more than season we advise to scale up to a larger container. Peonies do not like to be disturbed and the more soil the better they will do when transferred into ground.

**Always cut down the plant after the plant flowered and the leaves have turned brown. This will improve growth in the second year and will also significantly decrease the risk of Peony Wilt and other infections/viruses!\***

\*Note: Do not cut Intersectional Peonies all the way back in the fall since the lower part of the stem often carries next year's buds. Buds will also come from under-ground like herbaceous Garden Peonies.

### **Reasons why Peonies don't flower:**

1. They are planted too shallow or too deep.
2. They are getting too much nitrogen.
3. They are over or undernourished. Peonies thrive with little care and limited amounts of fertilizer.
4. The buds were killed by a late frost, disease, or excessive heat. Southern growers should plant early flowering cultivars.
5. There was not enough light for buds to form.
6. The soil is too wet or too dry.

### **Claims or Comments**

If you run into anything that is not acceptable to you as a grower, we need to know. Please call your sales representative and explain in detail where you have experienced the problems. We will do anything we can to help you and make our organization better in the future. We do our best to ship viable, healthy plants, but we understand that problems do occur. If you feel there is a problem, please write within 10 working days of receipt of your order so we may render any possible assistance. In all cases **we need pictures** of the individual plants, the complete shipment, roots etc. If your shipment has been damaged or shorted, note this on the delivery documents and file a claim with the carrier right away. Also please notify us of any delays. All claims, damages, spoilage and shortages must be reported to us in a written note or letter stating the problem **within 10 working days**.

**Claims received after this period or claims that are not supported by pictures will be respectfully declined.**

**DE VROOMEN**

GARDEN PRODUCTS

P.O. Box 189, Russell IL, 60075 U.S.A.  
Phone: +1 847 395 9911 Fax: +1 800 395 9920  
sales@devroomen.com