

Tips for Success

Water: Once you have gotten your plants planted, give them a generous watering. During the main summer growing months, watering every 4-6 days is usually sufficient. Water only very lightly through winter. Bearded Iris in the ground are quite drought tolerant once established.

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. If a lot of the plant's foliage has yellowed, you may cut the foliage back to just above the soil line. This will give your plant a chance to restart, and it encourages bushier, thicker growth.

First Year Maintenance: For perennials, the first year (or sometimes two) will require additional maintenance. During the first season of growth, even if the plant is known to be drought-tolerant, it is very important to water your plants on a regular basis, meaning up to 3-4 times per week. When plants are in their infancy stage, they need to be watered by their caretaker until they've had a chance to build a strong enough root system to subsist on their own. If you are experiencing severe heat, drought like conditions, or your plants appear consistently droopy, you may need to water your plants almost every day.

When to Divide My Iris: These clumping perennials like to be divided every 2-3 years for optimal growth. If you notice the flowering declines, it probably means it is time to divide. The best time to divide the iris is in July or August after the spring flowering has finished. Beware, this will mean you may not get a second flush of flowers that autumn. But your plants will thank you. Dig the clumps of iris out of the flowerbed or container. Shake off any soil adhering to the clumps. Use your hands to pull individual rhizomes apart from one another. Cut the foliage use down to about 4-6". This shorter foliage will help them re-establish in the garden. Use a knife or pruning shears to cut the actual rhizome apart, often this means just cutting the rhizome in half. Each new rhizome section should be at least 3" long, with visible roots coming out the bottom and a fan of leaves on top. Allow newly divided rhizomes to heal for 1-2 days before replanting.

ReBlooming Iris: These ReBlooming Iris will bloom in the spring and then again in the fall, unless if you live where the summers are very short, in the very northern part of the country. In order to get multiple flushes of flowers, it is essential to cut back old flowers to make room for new ones. Once flowers have finished, simply take scissors and cut the flower stems as close to the ground as possible. It is also important to leave the foliage in the garden all summer. If some of the foliage has browned, cut those areas off.

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Perennials



PHILLIP WATSON | Designs

PLANTING AND GROWING GUIDE



ReBlooming Bearded Iris
Iris germanica

"Magic isn't so much
what you create,
it's what you notice."

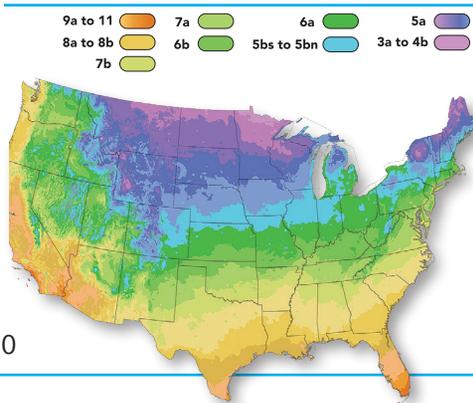
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Quick Reference

-  **Plant Type:** Perennial
-  **Light/Sun:** Full Sun
-  **Mature Height:** 24-36"
-  **Mature Spread:** 6-10"
-  **Bloom Time:** Spring to Fall, by second season
-  **USDA Hardiness Zones:** 4 to 10



Plant Caretaking

Upon Arrival: Please take plants out of the box immediately and remove any shipping materials from around the plants.

Planting Depth & Spacing: Dig a hole deep enough so that you can easily place the plant in the hole, maintaining the original soil line of the shipped plant; you do not want to plant them too deeply. Space plants about 6-12" apart in the garden. Plant so that their foliage is growing in the direction that you want them to grow. They only grow outward, so if you find they're growing the wrong direction, dig up and replant.

Potted Plants: Iris are perennials that will grow and expand over time. For potted plants, choose a container that is at least 10-12" across. You may plant one plant per 12" container, or choose a larger container and plant multiple together, spacing about 6-8" apart.

Soil Preparation: Iris need very well draining soil. If soil is heavy and slow draining, amend with potting mix, compost, or peat moss.

Watering: Water in iris after planting and then only water very lightly until you see foliage appear. Once foliage starts to grow you may water once or twice a week. In the ground they become quite drought tolerant once established.

Where to Plant: Bearded Iris love full hot, baking sun so plant where you they will get full sun. If you live where summers are incredibly hot, a place with afternoon shade is good.

Fertilizer: Use PWD Time Release Fertilizer a couple weeks after planting.

Pruning & Deadheading: These ReBlooming Iris need to be cleaned in order to continue to shoot up new flowers. When flowers have faded, cut back their stems as close to the ground as possible. This will encourage new growth. Iris foliage will often get browned tips. Simply cut those tips off at an angle. Iris foliage grows from the bottom up, so the foliage will continue to grow and look just fine.

Winter Care: Cut back foliage to the soil line at the end of autumn. Alternatively, you may do this in spring instead.

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 Dig a hole deep enough so that you can easily position the plant in the hole maintaining the original soil line from the container. Make sure the leaves are pointing in the direction that you want them to grow - iris only grow in one direction rather than in a mound all the way around. If you later realize it is growing in the wrong direction, simply dig up and reposition it.

Step 3 Fill in the hole with soil or potting mix so that all the roots are completely covered. It may seem that it is planted shallowly, that is normal and desirable for bearded iris.

Step 4 Water your iris in well. Allow soil to dry completely between watering, they require very little water until they start to create foliage. You should begin to see growth within a few weeks.

Step 5 Transplant into the garden or containers as soon as evening temperatures stay above 40F. 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 location 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 soil or potting mix, ensuring the entire root system is covered with soil.

