

gardening express

for everyone's garden

A Cultural Guide to Your New Plants – with compliments of www.GardeningExpress.co.uk

- Upon receipt of your plants, carefully remove them from the postal pack. The root ball should be moist, if the plants appear to be dry stand them in a saucer of water for a few minutes until moist.
 - We recommend planting directly into the garden in well prepared weed free soil containing plenty of organic matter such as compost. At this stage a fertiliser and soil-conditioning product can also be applied to the soil following the manufacturers instructions. Make a planting hole large enough to take the plant's root ball and incorporate compost with the soil removed, use this soil when backfilling the hole around the plant. Firm in well and water the plants.
 - Alternatively, plants can be potted into slightly larger pots using good quality compost. They can then be planted out as for stage two when they have filled these pots. Once potted situate your plants in a bright position.
 - All that now remains to be done is to water your plants regularly in dry weather and give an occasional liquid feed during the growing season.
- NB: We are now using biological pest control on the nursery, if you find insects on your plants they are likely to be beneficial.**

Every effort has been made to ensure the instructions given are accurate and will enable you to do the job safely and successfully. Please follow them carefully and seek expert advice in the event of any difficulty. Information and pictures are a guide only, different growing and weather conditions may produce varying results.

PLEASE NOTE: At certain times of year many plants have been trimmed or died back for winter and will not reappear again until spring. This is by no means an indication of actual size and quality as all plants despatched are very strong and will always grow away vigorously when the weather improves. Similarly plants sent in the summer months may have to be trimmed to fit inside packing cases, but they will grow back vigorously.

For more detailed advice and guidance about looking after your new plants, please visit our website. We've teamed up with VideoJug, the UK's leading video portal for life advice, to exclusively provide a range of How-To Guides, for help and advice in your garden. You can check out the videos advising the best ways to look after your garden and plants, covering all aspects from planting & pruning to growing your own fruit and veg!

Frequently asked questions about our deliveries.....

Q. My plants are larger/smaller than expected?

A. Due to seasonal variations in plant availability and growth, plants can often be larger or smaller than you may have expected. All sizes quoted online are approximate. We grow all of our plants out of doors to produce the highest quality tough hardy stock. We avoid forcing plants on early in the year undercover like most garden centres do, to avoid problems such as a late frost could cause once in your garden.

Q. I was expecting more items than I appear to have received.

A. Many items such as hedging are bundled up in multiples to aid shipping and protect them whilst in transit. These bundles simply need splitting down into the individual plants before setting them out in your garden.

Q. Some of my order appears to be missing, when will it be delivered?

A. Please check your packing list or account online. Any item marked TF or 0 is to follow at a later time. This may be because it is temporarily out of stock, an item that ships direct from a manufacturer or is a seasonal item. Seasonal items will be supplied at the correct planting time as dictated by the weather etc. Approx dispatch periods are indicated throughout the website. If an item is indicated as being shipped and is not present with your delivery, please contact our customer care team by logging onto your account and raising a support ticket.

Q. My friend bought me the plant I have just received from you yesterday! What's your returns procedure?

A. If you are not completely satisfied with your purchase, simply return the item or items to us in their original condition within 14 days of receipt. We will issue a full refund on receipt, or exchange the item for another if preferred. Some products are non-returnable as they have a limited shelf life. These products are clearly marked with a '+' next to the product name. The item is your responsibility until it reaches us. For your own protection, we recommend that you send the parcel using a delivery service that insures you for the value of the goods. Please note that due to the nature of our products - plants, pot sizes and dimensions may vary between seasons - so do not be alarmed if your trees have no leaves in winter! Please refer to our website for further information about our returns policy. Please include a covering letter detailing why you are returning the goods and your order number, and send this along with the original invoice and parcel of goods to: Gardening Express RETURNS, Chelmsford, Essex. CM1 4UA

Hello and welcome to Gardening Express!

If you've not purchased from us before, you've just discovered a well kept secret that gardeners in the know have been enjoying for years. We've built our business from a small concern into a fully fledged wing of the UK's horticultural army; supplying all types of people our plants. From TV shows and celebrities, garden designers and professional landscapers to people just brightening their surroundings at home, we are here to help. The cornerstones of our business are quality, service and value for money. We think you'll agree that the offer you're unpacking is a great deal and we hope to welcome you back to our site soon.

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Here's how to get the most of your new Buxus Topiary

Congratulations on your purchase of these fabulous Buxus Topiary - not only do you have a bargain, but given good care, you have a lovely plant that you will be able to enjoy for many years to come. We have put together a few simple instructions, with hints and tips on getting the most out of your new topiary.

Buxus is an evergreen shrub whose compact size makes it an excellent choice for gardens or home landscapes with limited space. Prized for the neat leaves for creating formal shapes, it is very hardy and ideal for growing outdoors successfully throughout the UK.

Ideally, plant your Buxus in a bright spot in your garden that receives between four and eight hours of sunlight each day. Choose a planting location that also offers your Buxus fertile and well-drained soil.

If you plant into the planters supplied, it is essential to provide drainage in the containers. Firstly, drill several holes in the base of the planter, then add a layer of gravel, stones or old broken plant pots before transferring the plant from its nursery pot and topping up with quality multi-purpose compost around the root-ball.

For best results, plant your Buxus at the same level that it was growing in its nursery container.

Water your Buxus topiary after planting to thoroughly moisten the surrounding soil. Water the tree regularly during the growing season to encourage it to form a strong, healthy root system. Be careful never to allow the topiary to dry out in hot weather when growing in containers – if it dries out even once it could die.

It is critically important to feed your Buxus topiary with a good quality water-soluble fertiliser in the growing season to promote healthy growth and a good colour. Always be sure to follow the application instructions on your fertiliser package.

Trim over your Buxus topiary in late winter to maintain a good shape. Use sharpened and sterilized shears to remove any diseased, damaged straggly branches from your Buxus and maintain a good shape. It is also fine to trim in late summer/early Autumn too, to keep the topiary in good shape.

All that is left to do is enjoy your topiary!

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