

• Bougainvilleas

characteristics

Bougainvilleas are a distinctive rambling vine plant that bears beautiful, delicate flowers. It grows naturally in Florida, Texas, Hawaii and California. It can make a stunning houseplant provided it receives the proper care.

planting

Repotting should be done in the early spring. The plant will perform best if some of the old soil is replaced with a fresh loam-based mixture.

These plants should be well watered and then watered again only when the surface of the soil appears to be dry.

Bougainvilleas will thrive in extremely sunny locations. During the warm summer months fresh air and full sun are essential.

Bougainvilleas will grow up to 8 feet in its natural habitat. It will flower from spring to early summer.

care & maintenance

Once the plant has finished flowering, prune to the height of approximately 6 inches from soil level. Bougainvilleas will be in full flower about 3 weeks after pruning and will continue to flower for approximately 6 weeks.

After pruning, apply a fertilizer with a high potash content such as Peters 20-20-20 or Miracle-Gro 15-30-15. Fertilize a second time when your plant begins to bloom again.

To winterize bougainvilleas, bring inside and place near a warm, sunny window.

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BOUGAINVILLEAS

A native to the coast of Brazil. In the 1760's the French botanist Philibert Commerson discovered the colorful vining plant and named it bougainvillea after his friend and captain, Louis A. de Bougainville.



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