

# Hanging Basket Success

Hanging baskets of flowers are just the right thing to add to your porch for instant pizzazz! If properly maintained, they can offer months of color and enjoyment. Here are a few of our best tips for success.



## CONTAINER

- **Size matters**—the larger the basket, the easier it is to care for and keep watered.
- **Container material** makes a difference—plastic pots hold water best, while wire frames with moss/coco liners tend to dry out more quickly.
- **Install strong hooks** for heavy hanging baskets!



## SUNLIGHT

- **Pay attention** to the amount of sun your basket will receive in its designated area:
  - » Full sun combos need at least 6 hours daily
  - » Partial sun combos need 4–6 hours daily
  - » Shade combos need less than 4 hours daily (fuchsias are great for shade!)
- **Some areas in full sun** receive radiant heat from fences, decks, or siding—special consideration should be made for hot-dry conditions.



## FERTILIZER

- **Apply slow-release fertilizer** like **G&B Organics Bud & Bloom** or **Osmocote Plant Food**, plus a **liquid bloom booster** like **Scott's Super Bloom** consistently throughout growing season.
- **See product labels** for application details.



## WATER

- **A consistent watering schedule** is key to healthy hanging baskets.
- **Water needs will increase** as plants grow and the weather warms up—by mid-summer, most baskets will require daily watering, if not more.
- **Check the weight** of the basket to determine if it needs watering.
- **If you are going on vacation**, have someone take care of your basket or take it down, water it, and place it in shade while you're away.



## DEADHEADING

- **Remove spent blooms weekly** to keep hanging baskets blooming and looking their best.
- **Some plant varieties are “self-cleaning”**—they do not require deadheading (e.g. Calibrachoa and Million Bells).



## PEST PROTECTION

- **Protect against pests** such as bud worms and caterpillars with **Captain Jack's Deadbug Brew**—spray when you see small white moth or butterfly on or near flowers.
- **Watch for other pests** like aphids—if present, use **insecticidal soap** or **neem oil**.