

OUT OF THE BOX

CLIMBING SHELL PLANT

Your plants are shipped in grower's pots and should be transplanted into larger pots or into the ground as soon as is convenient. Once planted they may take 4-6 weeks, depending upon the weather and other environmental conditions, to become established and start showing new growth. You can be assured they will begin setting roots and start growing very soon after planting. Please plant as soon as possible, provide reasonable care, and be patient. We urge you to plant your new arrivals as soon as possible. In the event planting must be delayed due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances, roll the plastic bag that is around the plant down and place in or near a bright window. Also, keep the soil in the pots moist. These are small pots that may need to be watered at least every other day.

The foliage on potted plants may appear wilted or yellow upon receipt. This is nothing to worry about. Water the plant thoroughly then gently remove any foliage that doesn't "perk up".

We strongly recommend planting in a container for maximum performance and enjoyment.

The **Climbing Shell Plant** loves full sun and plenty of water. It will need some type of structure to climb on like a trellis or pergola. Once the season winds down, cut it back and move it inside. It is sometimes called the "Corkscrew" plant. The twisted spirals of its blooms are much like snail shells. This very unusual plant was a favorite of Thomas Jefferson and it is still a favorite at Monticello where each year tourists are fascinated with the mature plants growing on the estate. The Lavender blooms add interest and color to your patio or landscape all summer long!

**Image on cover is representative of the type of plant(s) in this offer and not necessarily indicative of actual size or color for the included variety.*

Thank you for your order

PLANT WARRANTY

We warrant perennials for 1 year and annuals for 90 days from the time of the original shipment. If for any reason you are dissatisfied, we will replace your plant with a similar or comparable one, at no charge. If your replacement is not available or it is too late in the season to ship, it will reship the following shipping season.

CAUTION: Not all plant material is edible.

Though most plants are harmless, some contain toxic substances which can cause headaches, nausea, dizziness, or other discomforts. As a general rule, only known food products should be eaten. In case of ingestion, please contact your local poison control center at once and advise them of the plant ingested.

Keep out of reach of children.

CLIMBING SHELL
PLANT



QUICK REFERENCE PLANTING GUIDE

LIGHT/SUN EXPOSURE	Full to partial sun.
USDA HARDINESS ZONES	Winter hardy in zones 9 to 10. Annual in zones 1 to 8 or plant in a container so you can move the plant indoors and treat as a house plant over winter, or to a protected area (somewhere that doesn't freeze) before the first frost.
PLANT TYPE	Annual.
PLANTING DISTANCE IN-GROUND	5 to 6 feet apart.
CONTAINER SIZE	One plant per 10-inch or larger container. Transplant into larger container as needed.
MATURE HEIGHT / SPREAD	3 feet or more in a container. Up to 25 feet in-ground (zones 9-10) with multiple 'leads' with a 4 to 5 foot spread. Will tolerate heavy pruning.
BLOOM TIME	Early to mid summer.

SOIL PREPARATION

We recommend planting in a container for maximum performance and enjoyment. For gardeners who choose to plant in the ground we recommend having your soil tested periodically by your local County Extension Office (www.csrees.usda.gov/extension or by calling 1-800-333-4636). These tests can determine if the soil needs any amendments to enhance your plants' growth and performance. See below for our recommended practice to improve your soil without any additional testing:

1	Spade or till the soil to a depth of 12-18 inches.
2	To provide nutrients and improve drainage, add organic matter to your soil by mixing in a 2 to 4-inch layer of dehydrated manure, garden compost, shredded leaves, and/or peat moss.
3	After active growth begins, periodically feed with a water soluble fertilizer. Plants in containers need more frequent watering and feeding, especially when in active growth and bloom.

PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS

It is very important to thoroughly rehydrate the plant and its surrounding soil before planting so it may properly adapt to its new location. We recommend submersing the root zone of the plant in a container of water for 2-3 minutes while you prepare for planting.

We strongly recommend planting your plant in a container for maximum performance and enjoyment. Use the instructions below as a guide for container planting.

A	Fill the container with soil to within 4 inches of the top. Remove the plastic container and loosen up roots that have encircled the growing pot. Dig a hole in soil to insert the lower part of the root ball.
B	Once the plant is positioned at the proper planting depth, begin filling the hole with soil. Work the soil around the root ball with your hands. When the hole is half filled, tamp the soil to remove any air pockets.
C	Water well and, if necessary, adjust the plant so it is upright. Add additional soil to bring the level back up to the original soil line. Never insert the plant lower than the original top of the soil ball.



CONTINUING CARE

WATERING	Adequate and consistent watering is essential during the plant's first year in your garden. Infrequent, long soakings of water that thoroughly saturate the soil surrounding the root zone are more effective than frequent light applications of water that may wet the top of the soil only.
	Due to individual plant needs, geographical and environmental conditions, a specific watering schedule is hard to define; however as a rule of thumb you should not allow the soil to completely dry out. During periods of drought and extreme summer heat, you may need to water as often as every day.
	Overwatering can be as damaging as under watering. Be sure that the area surrounding your plant does not become a water-holding bog and that there is adequate drainage to move excess water away from the plant.

CONTINUING CARE (Continued)

MULCHING	Apply a 2-4 inch layer of shredded bark, compost or other organic mulch around your plants to promote moisture retention, maintain even soil temperatures, and to discourage weed growth.
PRUNING	Clip off dead or unsightly growth to maintain attractive form and shape. Deadhead or remove flowers when blooms fade, leaving as much foliage as possible.
FEEDING	Feed your plants once every 2-3 weeks during the growing season with a water soluble fertilizer. Discontinue feeding after September 1st so your plants can harden off for winter dormancy. Resume fertilizing when new growth appears in the spring.
WINTERIZING	In-ground hardy only in zones 9 to 10. In zones 1 to 8, plants should be grown in containers and moved to a protected area (somewhere that doesn't freeze) before the first frost in your area.
	When you bring your plant indoors for the winter, select a room that is bright, preferably one with a southern exposure. Indoors, plants tend to dry out from lack of humidity; however, this does not mean to water them daily. Bathrooms, especially those with a southern exposure, will provide a naturally humid environment for your plants.
	If you place your plant in any other room, you can boost the humidity level around your plant by filling a shallow tray with gravel and water then placing the pot in the tray. The water level should be slightly below the gravel so that the pot is not submerged in the water. You may also use a spray bottle to mist the plant with water once a week.

All other watering and feeding indoors should be reduced significantly. Do not over water or allow your plants to sit in water. Follow these simple steps and remove unsightly or dead growth over the winter to extend your plant's performance.

In the spring when temperatures begin to rise, ease the plant into a full watering schedule and move back outdoors for the summer.