

Geranium

(Pelargonium)

Versatile group with both single- and double-flowering varieties. Range from 4-inch miniatures to 5-foot "trees". Scented, with leaves smelling like mint, nuts, rose, lemon, and apple. Some varieties are vines with ivy-shaped foliage. White, pink, red, and bicolor. Varieties: Sprinter, Carefree, Colorcade.

Soil and Light

Full sun, but can take partial shade. Well-drained soil.

Planting

Sow seeds indoors 10 to 12 weeks early, or buy transplants.

Comments

Use all varieties as bedding, as well as pot plants. Use ivy varieties and scented types in hanging baskets and patio tubs. Overwinter cuttings on a windowsill. Treat as perennial in warm areas. Use hairpins to fasten stems of ivy geraniums to the soil, encouraging growth close to ground.