

QUICK REFERENCE PLANTING GUIDE

LIGHT/SUN EXPOSURE	Full sun.
USDA HARDINESS ZONES	5 to 8.
PLANT TYPE	Perennial.
PLANTING DISTANCE IN-GROUND	At least 12 inches apart.
CONTAINER SIZE	One plant per 12 inch or larger container.
MATURE HEIGHT / SPREAD	6 to 8 inches tall with a 12 to 16 inch spread.
BLOOM TIME	Spring to summer.
TIME TO REACH MATURITY	12 months.
FACTS OF NOTE	Edible berries. Everbearing. Great for eating fresh or adding to desserts.



Thank you for your order.

Your satisfaction is of primary concern to us. Please use the following resources for questions regarding your order:

www.CottageFarmsDirect.com

[CottageFarmsDirect.com/Planting Guides](http://CottageFarmsDirect.com/Planting%20Guides)

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888-593-3644

9960 Padgett Switch Rd.
Irvington, Alabama 36544

Cottage Farms' Guarantee

We aren't happy if you aren't happy. Cottage Farms warrants its perennials for 1 year and annuals for 90 days from the time of the shipment. If for any reason you are dissatisfied, Cottage Farms 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 ship the following shipping season.

Caution: Do not assume any plant is safe to eat. Only parts of plants expressly grown to be eaten should be considered edible. As with any product that is not food, care should be taken to make sure that small children and pets do not ingest any part of a plant that is not expressly grown to be eaten.

Unless specifically stated, this product is intended for ornamental horticultural use only and is not intended for consumption or ingestion by humans or pets. Most plants are harmless but some contain toxic substances which can cause adverse health effects. Furthermore, some individuals and some animals are sensitive or allergic to certain plants and precautions should be taken to limit or avoid physical contact with particular plants. Some plants have thorns or spines that can be painful if handled.

**In case of ingestion contact a poison control center immediately.
1-800-222-1222**

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*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.

OUT OF THE BOX

STRAWBERRY KIT

Your plants have been shipped to you in bare root form. Please remove the plants from the packaging right away and plant them as soon as possible following the planting instructions below. If it is not possible to plant them right away, follow these important steps.

1. Place the plants in a cool, dark place such as a refrigerator, unheated garage or basement.

2. Keep the roots moist by using a spray bottle to mist them.

Note: Occasionally, bare root plants may arrive with a small amount of mold on them. This is caused by temperature changes encountered in shipping and does not harm the plant. As long as the bare root divisions are firm, simply wipe any mold off with a paper towel and plant them.



SHIPPED AS BARE ROOT DIVISIONS.

PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS

A Fill the hanging planter with coco peat soil. Poke a hole in the soil in the center of each container opening. A hole can be made with your finger, a garden dibble, or even a large screwdriver.

B Place one plant in each hole with the roots spread apart. Be certain to keep the top (crown) of the plant at soil level. Cover the roots completely with soil and continue to work until all of the openings are filled. Plant the remaining bareroots in the top of the container.

C Once you have finished planting, firm the soil around each plant with your fingers and add additional soil if needed. Water thoroughly to fully hydrate the plants and allow the soil to settle.

SOIL PREPARATION

This offer includes a compressed coco peat soil block. Coco peat is a sustainably produced growing medium made from coconut husks. It absorbs water easily, provides excellent water retention, and distributes water evenly, making it ideal for a wide variety of plants.

MIXING INSTRUCTIONS:

Outdoors or on a potting bench, place the coco peat soil block into a large, water-tight container such as a bucket or plastic tub.

Pour two gallons of water into the container. Stir as the water is absorbed, allowing it to full incorporate into the dry soil. Do not be alarmed if the mixture has a soupy texture at first. Within 5-10 minutes, the water should be fully absorbed with any excess simply draining away.

Transfer the coco peat soil into the hanging planter. The soil will settle naturally as time passes, so do not forcefully compact it into the planter.

Note: You may have more coco peat soil than is necessary to fill the hanging planter. If so, simply store the excess soil in a dry place and save it for future use. Coco peat can be used alone or in the garden as a soil amendment.

CONTINUING CARE

WATERING

Adequate and consistent watering is essential for your plants. Infrequent, long soakings of water that thoroughly saturate the soil are more effective than frequent, light applications of water.

Due to variable geographical and environmental conditions, a specific watering schedule is difficult to define. However, as a rule of thumb, you should not allow the soil to completely dry out. You may need to water as often as every day in periods of drought and extreme summer heat. To determine if your plant needs water, dig a few inches into the soil next to the plant. If the soil is dry, it is time to water.

CONTINUING CARE (Continued)

FEEDING

Feed your plants once every 2-3 weeks during the growing season with a water-soluble fertilizer such as **Cottage Farms'** Bud-N-Flower Booster for Fruits and Vegetables (SKU #M11912). Discontinue feeding after September 1st so your plants can harden off for winter dormancy. Resume fertilizing when new growth appears in spring.

PRUNING

In the first year, strawberries may produce flowers that result in few berries. Some gardeners choose to pinch off any blooms that emerge the first year. This allows the plants to devote their energy to developing a stronger root system rather than bearing fruit, resulting to sturdier plants and better fruits in subsequent years.

Once the foliage has died back in fall, cut each plant back to four inches or less. New growth will emerge in spring as temperatures rise.

HARVESTING

Pick strawberries when the fruits have changed from green to red but still feel firm. Cut or pinch the stems to gently remove the berries from the plant. After picking, store the berries in the refrigerator and do not wash them until you are ready to use them. The sweet, nutritious berries can be eaten fresh, preserved or used for cooking. Do not consume any other part of the plant.

WINTERIZING

Watering thoroughly in late fall will greatly enhance your plant's cold tolerance during the winter months.

The time to winterize your strawberry kit is late fall. Move the containerized plants into an unheated, protected area such as a garage or cellar before temperatures drop below freezing. Check the soil moisture every 2-3 weeks and water as needed during winter.

In spring, move the container back into the garden sunlight where the plants will begin to repeat their yearly garden performance.