



Cyclamen



Cyclamen bloom in a wide range of brilliant colors. Most of the blooms are white, red, pink, rose or lavender and appear to hang upside down over the heart-shaped mottled green/gray foliage. A plant with a lot of buds can keep blooming for 3-4 months. When the flowers are spent, follow the stem down to the crown and firmly pull it out with your fingers. This will ensure continued blooming; damaged and yellowing leaves should also be removed this way. The flowers and leaves are borne directly from the top of the flattened tuber. The leaves are dark green mottled with silver blotches.

PLANT CARE

WATER

Plants prefer to keep moist, so water frequently and thoroughly. Keep soil evenly moist to touch, but not saturated. Don't let the plant sit in water. Avoid watering the crown or center of the plant. If the plant dries out too much, water the plant thoroughly, then set it on its side for an hour. This will help the flowers stand upright.

LIGHT

Cyclamen prefer bright indirect light. An east or west window will provide adequate light.

FERTILIZER

While the plant is flowering, feed about twice a month with Peter's Blossom Booster fertilizer.

TEMPERATURE

Cyclamen prefer cool temperatures. Ideal daytime temperatures are 55°-65°. They can withstand temperatures as low as 45°-55° at night.

HUMIDITY

High humidity indoors during the winter is crucial. To maintain humidity, fill a large plate or broad, shallow pan or tray with water. Set the Cyclamen on an inverted dish, just out of the water.

POTTING SOILS

Most cyclamen are planted in a peat moss soil that dries quickly. Plants can wilt quickly, so make sure that pots have drainage holes. Repot if drainage holes are not present. Use a soil mix consisting of 1 to 2 parts sphagnum peat moss, 1 part vermiculite, 1 part sterilized loam, and 1 part clean coarse sand or Perlite.



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