



Black Eyed Susan Planting Guide

About Black Eyed Susan

A stalwart of any wildflower meadow, Black Eyed Susan is perhaps the most emblematic of the classic North American Wildflowers. It is extremely resilient and boasts beautiful, yellow, daisy-like flowers with a dark chocolate color center. Native to the eastern United States, it has been largely naturalized throughout the rest of the country.

When to Plant

Start seeds indoors 6-8 weeks before planting after the last spring frost. You can also direct sow your seeds in late fall or early spring, after the danger of frost has passed.

Where to Plant

Black Eyed Susans prefer full sun but can be planted in any soil from sand to clay, as long as soil temperatures are about 70 degrees F.

How to Plant

Mix seeds with moist sand and store in the refrigerator for at least 2½ months before planting. Press seeds into the surface of the soil without covering, as Black Eyes Susans require light to germinate. Keep the soil lightly moist until germination, about 2-3 weeks after sowing. If starting seeds indoors, transplant outdoors, spacing 6-8", as soon as they develop several leaves.

Caring for Black Eyed Susan

Water seedlings regularly until plants become established. Though they grow well in fairly dry soil, Black Eyed Susans perform best with occasional watering in dry weather. Blooms may not appear in it's first growing year, but should during the second. Mature plants are heat and drought tolerant and plants may be divided to encourage growth. Deadhead flowers for a longer blooming period. For cut flowers, choose stems with flowers that have just opened. Place in water immediately and strip the foliage that falls below the water level.