

Tips for Success

Deer Resistant?: Yes! These are irresistible to gaze at with their awesome attention-getting flowers, floriferous nature, and lovely blue and purple tones. They're deer and rabbit resistant yet a favorite of butterflies!

What Type Of Climate And Soil Do Asters Prefer?: They thrive and do best in cool, moist summers. Too much heat during the summer may cause the foliage to turn yellow and dry up a bit. They prefer a well- drained, moist fertile soil with average watering during the growing season.

Common Uses: They are perfect for fairy gardens, rock gardens, borders, edging, garden beds, cut flowers and containers. They're perfect for adding that much needed fall color in the perennial garden.

Is It Helpful To Pinch The Plants?: Yes. Pinching back the tops by 6-8 inches at least once during the summer, to create a bushier plant and to prolong the fall bloom. This pinching **MUST** be done prior to July 4th, or it will have the opposite effect, and blooming will be decreased.

Do They Need To Be Divided to Rejuvenate Growth?: They can certainly be propagated after 2-3 years by dividing the clumps and replanting in spring or fall, but it is not necessary.



Roberta's Gardens

PLANTING AND GROWING GUIDE



Aster Mix
Aster dumosus

We aren't happy if you aren't happy. If you have any questions regarding your order please call us at **1-765-525-4065** during the hours of 8:30 am and 4:30 pm EST.

You can email questions to us at: customerservice@robertasinc.com.

If your bulbs, cuttings, etc. do not sprout, or your plant dies within one year from the date of shipment, we will send you a replacement free of charge. We cannot accept responsibility for losses due to extreme weather or neglect. Simply call us at the above toll free number or fill out the plant replacement form on our website at RobertasUniqueGardens.com.

Roberta's will replace it with a similar or comparable plant at no charge. If your replacement is not available or it is too late in the season to ship, it will ship the following year.

Perennials



Roberta's Unique Gardens

P.O. Box 368, Waldron, IN 46182

Monday - Friday 8:30AM - 4:30PM EST

RobertasUniqueGardens.com

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Quick Reference

 **Plant Type:** Perennial

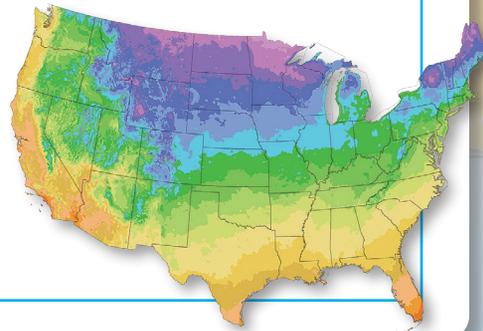
 **Light/Sun:** Full Sun

 **Mature Height:** 12-24"
(varies a little by variety)

 **Mature Spread:** 12-18"

 **Bloom Time:** Late Summer to Fall

 **USDA Hardiness Zones:** 4 to 8



Plant Caretaking

Upon Arrival: Please take bareroots out of their packaging and box immediately and remove any loose remnants that may have come loose. You may store them in a cool, dry location for up to two weeks if they cannot be planted right away. If doing this then please keep them in the plastic bag.

Planting Depth & Spacing: Dig a deep enough hole so that the entire bareroot easily fits into the hole with the sprouts only about 1/2" beneath the surface of the soil. Space plants about 2' away from one another in the garden.

Potted Plants: Make sure your container has holes to allow excess water to drain. Pot one plant in a 10-12" container, or you may plant multiple plants in a larger container.

Soil Preparation: If your soil is clayish, amend it with standard potting mix to improve drainage. They love an open area with plenty of sun or they'll thrive equally as well in a rock garden.

Watering: They prefer a moist soil bed compared to overly dry soil conditions. To determine if your plant needs water, put your finger in the top of the soil and if the top inch is dry, it is time to water. It is important to make sure young plants do not experience long periods of dryness. However, they also do not like soggy conditions. Especially during the first season, it is important that your plants are watered regularly. Once the plants are established, by the second or third season, they will not require as much water and they'll be drought tolerant.

Fertilizer: Use Roberta's Bounty a couple weeks after planting once you see green growth sprouting.

Pet Considerations: Ensure your pets do not consume plants.

Pruning: You may cut away spent flowers to encourage a better appearance along with additional blooms lasting well into fall.

Planting Steps

Step 1 Remove bareroots from their packaging and box. Open your box outside or somewhere you don't mind getting messy. Keep inside the packing material within a cool, dry location if you are going to store the roots for a couple of weeks.

Step 2 Choose a site or container that will allow the Asters to get full sun. They thrive in the afternoon full sun and the more sunlight the brighter and more abundant the blooms will be.

Step 3 Dig a hole deep enough to accommodate the entire root and 1 to 2 inches more to cover the top portion. Gently spread the roots out in the hole. Gently pack soil onto the rhizome, ensuring all roots are completely covered.

Step 4 Transplant into the garden or containers as soon as evening temperatures stay above 40F. Dig holes the width of the root ball and deep enough so that the original top of the soil is flush with the new soil line. Water the new location before and after planting your plant. This will help the young roots stay hydrated. Once you've placed your plant in the hole, fill in the rest of the hole with extra soil or potting mix, ensuring the entire root system is covered with soil.

Step 5 Water your newly planted roots in well and make sure your Asters are watered on a regular basis, especially the first growing season. Average to moderate watering throughout the summer. Make sure the plants are receiving at least 1 inch of moisture per week either through regular watering or natural rainfall throughout the entire season.

