



The Peony Guide

Everything You Need to Grow Beautiful, Long-Lived Peonies

Peony Basics

- Lifespan: 50–100+ years
 - Bloom season: Spring (May)
 - Sun: Full sun to partial shade
 - Zones: Typically 3–9
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Types of Peonies

Herbaceous

- Die back each winter
- Require staking
- Classic garden peonies

Tree Peonies

- Woody structure
- Large, dramatic blooms
- Slow to mature

Intersectional (Itoh)

- Strong stems, no staking
 - Long bloom period
 - Unique colors
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Bloom Order

1. Tree peonies
 2. Itoh peonies
 3. Herbaceous peonies
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Planting Guide

- Soak roots: 30 minutes
 - Depth: Eyes $\frac{1}{2}$ –1 inch below soil
 - Soil: Well-drained
 - Light: Full sun preferred
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Care Tips

- Water regularly (don't overwater)
 - Mulch year-round
 - Fertilize lightly
 - Allow airflow between plants
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Seasonal Care

Fall

- Cut back herbaceous peonies
- Leave others for winter habitat

Winter

- Add mulch (4–6 inches for new plants)

Spring

- Clean up old growth
- Watch for disease early

Common Problems & Fixes

Powdery Mildew

→ Treat with neem oil or milk spray

Botrytis

→ Remove infected parts, disinfect tools

Peony Blotch

→ Clean debris, apply fungicide

No Blooms

→ Check planting depth & sunlight

Pro Tips

- Don't plant too deep
 - Be patient—some take years to bloom
 - Mix varieties for a longer season
 - Support herbaceous blooms early
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Final Thought

Plant peonies once—and enjoy them for a lifetime.