

Potted Mum

Product Information

Chrysanthemums have "composite" flower heads of ray flowers (petal-like florets) and disk flowers (tiny florets in the center), in a range of forms and sizes. The most common bloom forms for pot mums are daisy, decorative (cushion, Dahlia-type, etc.), spider, spoon-tip, quill and anemone (mounded cushionlike center). Stems are leafy and either branched, with multiple flowers per stem, or disbudded, with a single bloom per stem.

These plants typically last for two to four weeks (sometimes longer), depending on variety, maturity at the time of sale and the care they receive. The ideal stage for mums to be sold is when plants have a few open blooms along with a mass of buds that are showing color.



Care Tips

Place potted mums in moderately bright to bright light, but protect them from direct midday sun.

Keep soil consistently moist at all times. This likely will require watering several times each week, if not every day, depending on how root bound a plant is. Under watering results in wilted blooms and leaves, and wilting shortens the life of the plant.

Potted mums prefer cool environments. Room temperatures higher than 22 C will shorten flowering time and plant life.

Remove faded blooms, damaged buds and yellow leaves daily.

Most people dispose of florist mums after the blooms fade because the plants are not hardy in cold climates; however, if you want to transplant one outdoors, cut the stems back to 3 inches after flowering, and keep the pruned plant in a cool but frost-free place until spring, after the chance of hard freezes has passed. In warm climates, florist mums should revert to their natural growth habits.