

Emerald Goddess Gardens

emeraldgoddessgardens.com

A Gift from Our Garden

Botanical Name	Helianthus annuus 'August Beauty'
Common Name	Autumn Beauty Sunflower
Mature Size	3 - 4 ft.
Bloom Color	Yellow, Red, Orange
Bloom Period	Summer
Bloom Form	Sunflower
Water	Moderate
Light	Full Sun
Fragrance	None
Uses	Annual Color, Seed Production, Butterfly & Hummingbird Attractant
Special Features	Versatile, Easy to Grow, Showy
USDA Hardiness	Annual in all zones once frost has passed and temperatures are above 55 degrees.



Autumn Beauty Sunflower is a fun twist on the classic sunflower we all know and love. With a short lived annual growing season, Sunflowers are the perfect way to bring Summer and Fall beauty to the landscape with little care or maintenance. Plant Sunflower seeds once danger of frost has passed and temperatures remain above 55 degrees for beautiful blooms all Summer long.

Autumn Beauty is one of our favorite Sunflowers as its blooms seem to outlast those of traditional varieties. Blooms range from golden yellow to burgundy and will last through early Fall. They make excellent cut flowers during the Fall season, ushering in warm, homey tones.

Allowing flowers to remain on the stalk until they have expired and seeds in the center become dry will yield copious amounts of seed for the next season. Remember that even in warm climates, Sunflowers are annuals that usually die after flowering, so do not fret if your plants go downhill soon after producing flowers... they are pouring their energy into creating seeds that will be perfect for enjoying next season.

If you are in a zone that has not quite reached warm Summer temperatures yet, Sunflowers are easy to start indoors. Simply soak seeds in water for 24 hours, sow about ½" deep in the soil and water. They will grow for 2 to 3 weeks indoors with exposure to light while you wait for warmer weather to arrive.

For quick answers to your growing or planting questions, just email us at service@emeraldgoddessgardens.com

If you don't know your USDA Planting Zone, you can check the map on our website site at emeraldgoddessgardens.com

Please accept this gift from our garden:

- It is sent with our thanks, and in an effort to keep the old tradition of pass-along plants alive.
- We understand that it might not be a plant you like, or even have a spot for. If that should be the case, then please pass it along to a friend. (Along with our contact information, we hope!)
- We change the type of plant that we enclose frequently, so you can anticipate a new surprise with each new order.
- *Enjoy and please come back often!*

The Family and Staff of:

Emerald Goddess Gardens

Emeraldgoddessgardens.com

service@emeraldgoddessgardens.com

Getting your seeds started:

Germination times and requirements for seeds can vary greatly, so here are some basic tips for caring for your seeds once they have sprouted and the specifics on convincing Autumn Beauty Sunflowers to sprout.

- Soak seeds in water for 24 hours before sowing about ½' deep in the soil. We recommend planting at this depth to deter any garden friends who may consider eating your seeds.
- Use a good quality commercial potting media.
- Water regularly to keep the top layer of soil consistently moist, but not soggy.
- Locate so that the plant can receive direct, full spectrum, light for several hours daily, but is protected from hot, direct afternoon sun.
- Be sure the pot can drain and that the bottom of the pot does not sit submerged in water for more than a day
- Once small sprouts begin to emerge, decrease watering so that the top ½" of soil is allowed to dry between watering. If sprouts begin to droop, they are ready to be watered.
- Thin sprouts as they emerge and replant in a new container or dispose of to achieve the desired number of plants in each pot.
- Monitor for signs of disease or insects and treat accordingly
- Protect from freeze and frost
- Allow the new pot to fill with roots before setting out in the landscape in the recommended USDA Zone Range for the plant.

Gift plants are our courtesy way of saying Thank You and that we appreciate your order, and are not covered by any Warranty that may apply to your paid order. We hope you will enjoy watching your seeds grow into something amazing!

**Image courtesy of CCC*