

Emerald Goddess Gardens

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Botanical Name	Hibiscus rosa seninsis
Common Name	Exotic Fancy Fairy Music Hibiscus
Mature Size	3'x3'
Bloom Color	Yellow, Cream, Lavender, Pink
Bloom Period	Spring thru Fall
Boom Form	Classic Fancy Single
Water	Moderate
Light	Best in Full Sun
USDA Zone	10 & South
Fragrance	None
Uses	Specimen, accent, potted
Special Features	Large fancy flowers, strong plant



Hibiscus are attractive tropical shrubs, they have perhaps the largest variation of bloom color as any species, there are literally thousands with new hybrids constantly being introduced. Among the most popular ones are those classed as 'Exotics'. This class has larger, fancier flowers than the classic landscape types. It was often true that larger and more complex a flower was, the more temperamental and fussy the plant was.

Then a few years ago renown hibiscus breeders, Bobby Dupont and Rober Gerlich turned their focus in their hibiscus breeding program to not only producing new hybrids with lush, exotic, and unusual flowers, but also tough, resilient, strong growing plants. The term 'Cajun Hibiscus' has become synonymous for the strong, easier to grow cultivars developed in their Louisiana nursery.

The flowers of **Fairy Music** are extra large, classic, fancy in a range of soft, pastel colors of yellow, cream, lavender and pink. lined by a baby yellow ruffled outer edge. The gorgeous flowers are born on an upright growing bush with a slightly open habit with dark green, glossy oval leaves.

Generally exotic hibiscus are best grown as potted plants. With good care they can be grown planted in the ground in tropical climates. The primary concerns when planting in the landscape is protection for direct, hot, afternoon, providing supplemental irrigation, and spraying to prevent pest and fungus. Planting in soils known or suspected to have high nematode activity should be avoided.

Direct planting of 4 inch starter size plants is not recommended, so for the best results with your new plant, we recommend it be repotted and allowed to grow larger before setting out in a tropical to subtropical landscape. When the new pot has filled with roots and the plant is larger, then here a few hints for successful growing in the landscape in Zones 9, 10, and 11. can be grown as a potted plant indefinitely.

- Plant in fertile well draining, slightly acidic soil soil in the full sun. Amend with high quality organic material as needed.
- Locate in full sun to very lightly dappled shade.
- Provide supplemental irrigation.
- Feed a good quality, slow release, bloom boosting fertilize with the initial planting and twice yearly in the early Spring and early Fall thereafter.
- Supplement with a water soluble plant food in between feeding.
- Prune lightly and often when young to encourage branching and after flowering to promote uniform shape and control size.
- Protect from frost and freeze.

Email us with any growing or planting questions at service@emeraldgoddessgardens.com
 You can check your USDA Planting Zone on the map posted on our website at emeraldgoddessgardens.com

Care of Your New Hibiscus Plant

Here are a few basic guidelines for handling and caring for your new tropical hibiscus plant:

Direct planting of 4 inch starter size Tropical Hibiscus directly into the landscape is not recommended. So, for the best results with your new hibiscus plant we suggest that it be repotted into a larger pot and allowed to grow larger until the new pot is filled with roots before setting out.

- Immediately unpack, remove the wrappings and shipping gel and discard the gell.
- Re-pot the new plant into a 6 inch to 10 inch diameter pot that can drain easily and thoroughly.
- Use a good quality commercial potting media.
- Apply a high quality, slow release plant food according to the label directions. Do not use hot, all chemical fertilizes like 6-6-6 or 10-10-10.
- Locate so that the plant can receive direct, full spectrum light for several hours daily, but is protected from hot, direct afternoon sun.
- Maintain consistent and uniform moisture in the soil. Take care not to over water.
- Packing crystals may be reused to conserve water, but do so with caution as they hold 6000 times their weight in water.
- If reusing the crystals, mix and incorporate them thoroughly throughout the potting media.
- Be sure the pot can drain and that the bottom of the pot does not sit submerged in water for more than a day.
- Supplement feed with a water soluble plant food every 2-3 weeks according to the label directions.
- Prune or pinch lightly and often when the plant is young and actively growing to strengthen the central stalk and encourage branching and build uniform shape.
- Monitor for signs of disease or insects and treat accordingly.
- Protect from frost and freeze.

Tropical Hibiscus and many other tropical and subtropical plants can be grown as potted plant indefinitely and can be successfully wintered over indoors in colder climates, so long as they are moved indoors well ahead of temps into the 30's, are maintained in warm environment (minimum 40°F) with adequate, full spectrum light, and consistent soil moisture is maintained.

This plant is intended for use as an ornamental, decorative item only. Emerald Goddess Gardens does not recommend, endorse nor offer the product for any other use.