

Emerald Goddess Gardens

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Botanical Name:	Hibiscus rosa-sinensis
Common Name:	Queen of Dreams
Mature Size:	3' x 3'
Bloom Color:	Shade of peach, pink, lavender, and yellow; with a deep strawberry pink throat
Bloom Period:	spring to fall
Bloom Form:	shrub
Water:	moderate
Light:	full sun to partial shade
USDA Zone:	9a – 11
Fragrance:	none
Uses:	Best as a potted accent plant
Special Features:	attracts butterflies and hummingbirds



The Tropical Exotic Cajun Hibiscus Queen of Dreams bears large, fancy, ruffled, densely double hibiscus flowers in multiple muted shades of peach, pink, lavender and yellow with a deep strawberry pink throat.

Hibiscus rosa sinensis or *Tropical 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, and typically are high maintenance plants that require extra care and attention.

Queen of Dreams is another of the wonderful *Cajun* hybrids brought to us by expert *Exotic Hibiscus* breeders Bobby Dupont and Robert Gerlich of Dupont Nursery in Louisiana, and as it is with nearly all their plant line, *Queen of Dreams* offers us beautiful, unusually colored, show stopping flowers with less fuss and plant care than was formerly typical of *Exotic Tropical Hibiscus*.

The plant is sturdy, moderately disease and nematode resistant enough to be successfully grown on its own roots, and has an upright growth habit with large ovate, slightly rounded serration along the edge of the deep green leaves.

For the best results with *Tropical Hibiscus Queen of Dreams*:

Direct planting of 4 inch starter size plants is not recommended, and although Queen of Dreams can be successfully grown planted into the landscape, it will generally perform better and live longer when grown as a potted plant.

- Select a pot at least 6 inches in diameter, but no larger than 10 inches with large drainage holes.
- Use a high quality commercial potting media.
- Locate in cool full spectrum light, avoid exposure to direct, hot, midday sun.
- Provide supplemental irrigation.
- Feed a good quality, slow release, bloom boosting plant with the initial planting and twice yearly thereafter.
- Supplement with a water soluble plant food in between feeding.
- Prune or pinch terminal ends lightly and often when the plant is young and actively growing to encourage branching. Avoid severe pruning, especially late in the fall.
- Inspect regularly for common hibiscus pests and disease and treat appropriately.
- Protect from frost and freeze.

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

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

Ornamental Plants sold by Emerald Goddess Gardens are intended for use as ornamental decorative items only. Emerald Goddess Gardens does not recommend or endorse any other use.