

# Hanging Basket Care

**Hardening Off:** All plants grown in a greenhouse need to be hardened off before they are placed in a permanent location. Failure to do so will result in sunburn, even in sun-loving plants. There are two ways of accomplishing hardening off.

1. Place plants in a partially shady area during the day. Do this for a week.
2. Set plants in the sun for an hour, twice a day. Gradually increase the amount of time plants are in the sun each day until they are able to tolerate full exposure without showing signs of burning.



## Fuschias:

- Harden off plants before placing outdoors in a permanent location.
- Hang in a shady area, preferably a north or east exposure. Do not place in a windy area.
- Keep moist. Water daily with enough water so that some runs out the bottom.
- Fertilize every 10-14 days.
- Pick off wilted flowers and the nodule (located behind the flower) to prevent seed pod formation. Flowering will cease if seed pods are allowed to form.

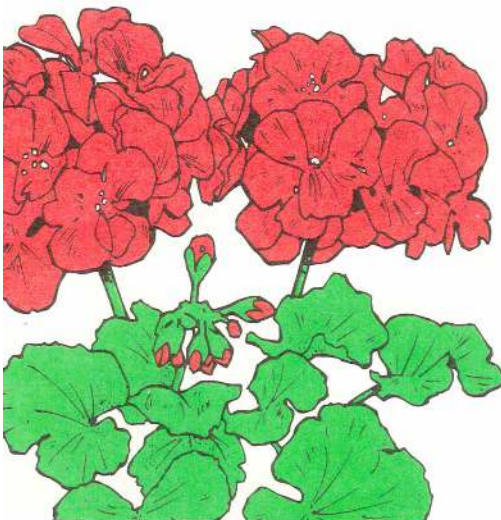
## Tuberous Begonias:

- Harden off before placing basket in a permanent location
- Hang in a shady area, one with a north or east exposure. Avoid placing in windy locations.
- Allow surface to dry slightly between waterings. When watering, use enough water to allow some drainage out the bottom of the basket.
- Fertilized every 10-14 days.
- Begonias are very susceptible to powdery mildew during cool, damp weather. Watch plants closely and treat with a fungicide as soon as disease appears and as a preventative.

## Geraniums:

- Harden off before placing in a permanent location.
- Hang in a sunny location.
- Allow soil to become moderately dry between waterings. If leaves turn yellow, the soil has become too dry. Give at least a gallon of water, enough to provide some drainage of water through bottom of basket.
- Fertilize every 2 weeks.
- Keep wilted flowers picked off to prolong blooming and maintain a neat appearance.

Plants can be brought back to the greenhouse after Labor Day for winter care.



# Bell's Nurseries

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13700 Specking Avenue  
**345-4476**

7653 Cranberry Street  
**243-1020**

3125 DeArmoun  
**345-2654**