

Crinum X Powellii Lily Planting Instructions

"Deep Pink - Candlestick"



This old fashioned crinum lily, which I believe to be either 'Ellen Bosanquet' or 'Elizabeth Traub', is a low maintenance plant that produces lovely deep rose-pink blooms about the size of an Easter Lily that have the most wonderful fragrance! Some of the old 'Florida Crackers' around here call these crinums 'Candle Sticks' because of the way the blooms stand so tall (easily 24") above the foliage. Each bloom stalk holds 5+ blooms at a time! These lilies are cold hardy to USDA zone 7 and grow very well to zone 11 in full sun or partial shade. These can be kept in containers in colder zones and brought into a garage or other cool, but not extremely cold, area for winter. These will produce several flower stalks during the warmer months. These lilies will multiply by producing bulbs underground.

Planting and Growing Instructions:

- **FOR BLOOMING SIZE OR EXTRA LARGE BULBS:**

These bulbs are planted quite deep – plant your bulb so that the soil line is even with the **ribbon tied at the top of the stalk**. (remove ribbon after planting) This marks the original soil line. Water in well; you may want to put water in the bottom of the hole before placing the bulb in. After they are established, they don't require much water, but when first planting a good soaking will help them get over the shock of being transplanted. Plant in sandy, well draining, fairly dry soil in full sun or partial shade. I have never fertilized mine; but if you feel the need to do so, I would use a very light, natural fertilizer (like milorganite or black-cow) or compost. Do not water down into the stem of the plant, water around it. Water standing in the stem can rot it. Foliage may turn yellow or brown on the tips from being cut, but will recover as the plant gets re-established and starts growing new leaves.

- **FOR SMALL BULBS:**

For fastest growth, I suggest planting your bulb in a partly shady location that can be kept fairly damp (but not soggy). Although the large plants can grow in full sun and quite dry conditions, the smaller plants, that naturally grow UNDER the foliage of the large ones, need a little TLC to really get a good start. Plant in well draining (sandy) soil so the soil doesn't remain soggy around the bulb and rot them, but watering about 3 times a week (or anytime the top 1" of soil around them is dry) will give your plants a good start. Don't plant too deep, just covering the bulb with soil, but not the leaves or the green/white/brown leaf stalk. Your bulbs MAY have a ribbon tied around the stalk, if so, this is the original soil line – plant according to that mark. (Be sure to REMOVE THE RIBBON when you plant it). When your bulbs are larger, you can transplant them to a sunnier and/or dryer location or reduce supplemental waterings. I suggest doing this move in early spring, after last frost, when they are just coming out of dormancy, but it can be done at any time.

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General Growing Info:

The foliage on these has been evergreen in my zone 9 but may die back in colder zones, returning in the spring. Water sparingly during winter dormancy.

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These bloom mostly in the warmer months beginning in early summer. These crinums do not produce seeds, instead they multiply by producing baby plants underground as offshoots to the older plants.