

Growing Begonia Houseplants A Quick Guide

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Light

Most begonias prefer bright light, east and west windows are best. Direct sun light is not ideal. Most begonias grow well under grow-lights or in a greenhouse.

Water

Over watering is a common problem when growing begonias. Don't wait until plants wilt, but be sure that the soil feels dry before watering. Do not let plant sit in water. Water needs vary by season, when actively growing in the summer watering may be more frequent.

Temperature

Most begonias will tolerate temperatures from 55° to 75°. Keep plants away from drafty windows, heating and air conditioning ducts.

Humidity

Many species begonias require humidity over 60%. This may be difficult to maintain during the winter. Humidity loving plants are great candidates for terrariums or greenhouses.

Potting Medium

Begonias prefer to grow in a well-draining soil-less mix containing perlite and/or long strand sphagnum peat most. Do not use outdoor garden soil.

Fertilizing

Feed plants when actively growing. Use half to quarter strength water soluble fertilizer, or a slow release fertilizer according to package directions.

Repotting

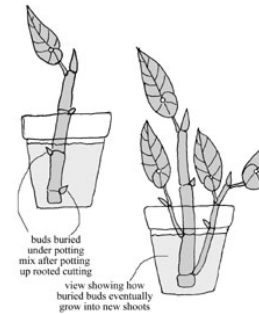
Most begonias do not mind being pot-bound; repot every one or two years. The new pot should be no more than 1-2" larger than the original pot.

For more information go to:

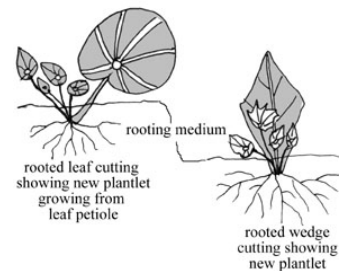
www.buxtonbegonia.org

Begonia Propagation

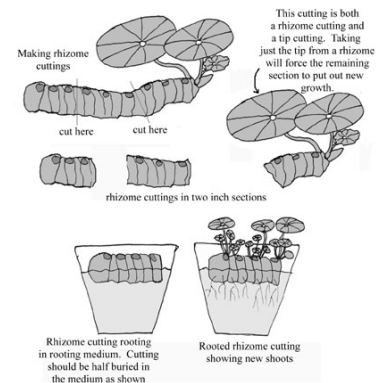
Tip and Stem Cuttings



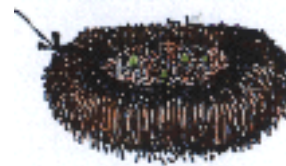
Leaf and Wedge Cuttings



Rhizomes



Tubers



Seed- Begonia seeds are tiny and require special conditions and take 2-4 weeks to germinate

Begonia Resources

Compiled by Betsy Szymczak

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www.betsyszymczak.com

Organizations

American Begonia Society - www.begonias.org

Buxton Branch American Begonia Society

Web site: www.buxtonbegonia.org

FB: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/216406648483868>

Instagram @buxbegonia

Meetings are on first Saturday of the month **usually** at the McAuliffe Library, Framingham, MA

Annual show and sale Sept 19-20, 2020 at Tower Hill Botanic Garden, Boylston MA

Plants:

Local MA Garden Centers: Mahoneys, Russells, Weston Nurseries

Other gardens:

Stonehedge Gardens, Charlton, MA

Farmer's Daughter, South Kingstown, RI

Andrew's Greenhouse in Amherst, MA

Lyman Estate Greenhouses, Waltham, MA

Avant Gardens in North Dartmouth, MA (perennial *B. grandis*)

Logee's – retail and on-line sales

Danielson, CT. <https://www.logees.com/>

Mountain Orchids – on-line sales

North Springfield, VT <https://www.mountainorchids.com>

Taylor Greenhouse – on-line sales

Portland, NY. <http://www.taylorgreenhouses.com>

Kartuz Greenhouse – on-line sales

Vista, CA. <https://www.kartuz.com>

Steve's Leaves – on-line sales

Lewisville, TX. <https://stevesleaves.com/store>

Supplies

Amazon

Alotpower Soil Moisture Sensor Meter

AcuRite 00613 Humidity Monitor

Nutricote 18-6-8 Slow Time Release Fertilizer 180 Day

Violet Supply <https://www.VioletSupply.com>

Oyama self-watering planters

Griffin Greenhouse Supply

Pro-Mix HP Biofungicide + Mycorrhizae

Books

Tebbitt, M. 2005. *Begonias Cultivation, Identification and Natural History*.

Thompson, B. 2015. *Brad's Begonia World*.

Thompson, M.L., Thompson, E.J., 1981. *Begonias, The Complete Reference Guide*.

Web Resources

Fine Gardening, "Rex Begonias" by Rita Randolph <http://www.finegardening.com/rex-begonias>

A Way to Garden, Margaret Roach <http://awaytogarden.com/growing-fancy-leaf-begonias-indoors-and-out/>

White Flower Farm How to Grow Tuberous Begonias <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lbkts3347g>

The Begonian, Volume 81, Nov-Dec 2014 "Growing Begonias in New England."

Begonia houseplants that over-winter without extra humidity.

Species

B. kellermanii

B. vitifolia

B. venosa

Hybrids

B. 'Boomer'

B. 'Erythrophylla'

B. 'Jive'

B. 'Lime Marmalade'

B. 'Ricinifolia'

B. 'Marmaduke'