



## CARE INSTRUCTIONS

### **POINSETTIA** (*latin name: euphorbia pulcherrima*)

Pemberton's has grown poinsettias for more than 40 years. With a selection of more than 25 varieties and unusual colors, you'll find a poinsettia to fit any situation or space—single plants, double plants, triple plants and multi-plant hanging baskets. You can purchase individual poinsettias, large quantities, and to use for your fundraisers as well.

We grow top quality, long-lasting varieties with a full color range - Red, White, Pink, Ice Punch (Red and White), Tapestry (Red with green & yellow variegated leaves), Marble (White & Pink), Red Glitter (White & Red), and more. **You can see this year's complete selection on our website: [www.PembertonsGreenhouses.com/poinsettias](http://www.PembertonsGreenhouses.com/poinsettias).**

Poinsettias come from warmer climates, and will not survive in low temperatures, and will bloom when their days are shorter than their nights (typically our Northern Hemisphere winter season.)

#### **TRANSPORTING POINSETTIAS:**

Poinsettias are especially sensitive to sudden changes of temperature. Protect your plants on cold, windy trips to new homes. Cover them with a disposable plastic cover or a tall box that doesn't crowd your plants or crush leaves.

As soon as possible, we suggest removing the disposable plastic cover within 12 hours, in a draftless, temperature appropriate environment. Otherwise, they will suffer ethylene damage and drop their leaves.

#### **AT HOME OR WORK:**

Place your poinsettias in a *very* well lit area away from drafty windows or vents. They prefer plenty of bright, indirect light, and day temperatures of 70F - 75F degrees with nights getting no lower than 65F.

#### **WATER & HUMIDITY:**

Water your poinsettia when the pot becomes lightweight or when the soil is dry to the touch. This is approximately once a week if room temperature is 68-70F. Avoid allowing the plant to wilt and don't let it stand in water.

They like 65-75% humidity, so regular misting (*on leaves only* -- not blooms) can help, although like most houseplants, they would prefer being near a vaporizer or humidifier in winter.

#### **AFTER THE HOLIDAYS:**

Blooms should last for 2 to 3 months. After that, you can treat them as houseplants. Poinsettias are not hardy in Kentucky, so they must stay indoors except during summer. (continued, below)



## **HOW TO GET YOUR POINSETTIAS TO REBLOOM:**

Keep in mind that Kentucky winter homes aren't the best climate for poinsettias, and when your plant reblooms at home it won't look as full as it does when grown in our greenhouses. If you want to give it a try here's what to do!

1. After your plant has bloomed for the holidays and when your plant drops its colorful bracts, freshen up the soil with something well draining (avoid soils described as "moisture control"). In our greenhouses we use and sell Promix or cactus mix for poinsettias.
2. Cut your plant back to 4" - 6." Treat it like a houseplant, feeding it weekly with a half-strength general houseplant fertilizer.
3. When outside temps are above 55F degrees, you can move it outside, if you'd like. From May - August; pinch off the growing shoots every 3 - 4 weeks. Leave at least 5 - 6 leaves per stem, as you will get blooms at every leaf joint.
4. Stop pinching your poinsettia by Sept 1 and transition it back inside. Start the blooming activation process around Sept 20 to ensure that it will bloom for the holidays. Poinsettias need 14 hours of uninterrupted darkness everyday for at least 6 weeks to bloom. Use a closet, your basement, or a guest room to offer full darkness, and set it back by a sunny (draftless) window for 10 hours of light everyday as well.
5. When you start to see color on the top leaves (bracts), this is a sign that you've activated the blooming process and you may now treat it the same as when you first brought it home.

**PembertonsGreenhouses.com**