

Specialty
Tropicals

Care Instructions
Passiflora (PAS-)

Species & Common Names:	Passiflora species & hybrids; Passion Flower; Maypop; Grandilla; many other common names
Origin:	New World Tropics
Characteristics:	Passifloras are grown primarily for their exotic, otherworldly blossoms and in some cases, for their delicious, edible fruit. While no species is known to be specifically toxic to humans, a few are cultivated for their flavor, while many others are not considered tasty by most people.
Temperature:	Passifloras enjoy warm temperatures and full sun. Outdoors, this is easy to achieve by putting them in unshaded areas. For tropical species (including many hybrids), it is necessary to bring them indoors during cold weather, except in subtropical or tropical climates. Their pots may be set outdoors on a sunny porch or other location for the summer, then brought in well before frost to a sunny location indoors near a window.
Potting and Soil:	Passifloras appreciate a well-drained soil mix that can dry somewhat between waterings. As a rule, those species from temperate regions (E.g., <i>P. incarnata</i> , <i>P. alatocaerulea</i>) are most appreciative of a soil that contains a considerable amount of perlite or other drainage-promoting material. The balance of the soil mix should be organic, either peat or soil-based, and should be light and non-compacting for best growth.
Light:	Full sun (or the closest you can offer indoors, with a bright window or artificial grow lights) will make your Passiflora happiest.
Water:	Passifloras vary somewhat in their moisture requirements but in general, their soil should dry somewhat on top before watering again. We find that if the top 2 inches or so of soil is dry, it's the right time to water. Water plants in

	<p>containers until water seeps out of the drainage holes in the pot; outdoors, give them a good soak, but don't saturate the soil to the point of leaving standing water.</p>
Humidity:	<p>Passifloras are native to the tropics and the Southern U.S., where humidity is generally quite high most of the year. They appreciate a mist with tepid water occasionally when grown indoors or in dryer climates.</p>
Feeding:	<p>For best blooms, avoid high nitrogen fertilizers that push vegetative growth at the expense of flowers. If you are growing your Passiflora in pots, some fertilizer will definitely help your plant do its best. Fertilizing plants in the ground is probably not necessary in most cases. Avoid fertilizing in the fall when the plant is getting ready to go dormant. Lush growth from late fertilizing could make the plant susceptible to damage from early cold weather.</p>
Other Things to Know:	<p>"Passion Flowers" earned their name because early Christian missionaries in the Caribbean and Latin America used the blossom as an illustration of Christ's suffering. The upright style has the form of a Latin cross, while the tendrils are reminiscent of the scourges used to whip and torture Him.</p>

**VERY
IMPORTANT:**

Your Passiflora plant will arrive potted and actively growing during warm weather. Simply remove the packaging and set it in a warm, sunny area and water until the soil is thoroughly moist. As the plant grows, watch for signs of roots coming from the bottom of the pot. When this happens, your plant needs to be moved up to a larger pot. Eventually, most Passifloras will need a one gallon or larger pot. In the case of vigorous hybrids and some species, this will be more like a 3-5 gallon pot at maturity.