

## Chapter 1 : How to Grow Geraniums - Plant Instructions

*These plants need to be grown in well-draining potting soil as well. When growing geraniums outdoors, they require moist, well-draining soil similar to that of indoor potting soil with equal amounts of soil, peat and perlite.*

Growing geraniums Great in the garden and in pots Lush growing geraniums look good in a bed all by themselves, or mixed in with other annuals. They also make attractive edging plants for the flower garden. In fact, these versatile plants are perfect for any spot that calls for a splash of vibrant color through-out the season. They are from the same plant family as the hardy perennial Geranium, however, Pelargoniums are tender perennials and not frost hardy in cold regions. The most common types fit into one of the following groups: This group is loved for its big, attractive flower heads that bloom white, pink, orange, red or purple. The leaves have a dark zonal pattern on the leaves. Some zonal geraniums have fancier leaves, edged or banded by colors such as yellow, white, burgundy or coral. This type has ivy-like leaves and a trailing habit, which makes them perfect for window boxes and hanging basket planters. The trailing types also tolerate a fair amount of shade. Flower colors range from white through pastel shades of pink to red and purple. Martha Washington or Regal: Large frilly flowers make these geraniums very special. They bloom in white and vivid colors such as orange, purple, red and burgundy. Regals thrive in part shade and can grow up to 4 feet tall. These types that are grown primarily for their aromatic leaves with scents such as citrus, apple, rose or mint. These plants have smaller, less showy flowers than the other types. Other types of geraniums: There are dwarf types and a group known as stellars, which have star-shaped flowers and notched leaves. Tips for growing geraniums: Although they can weather a light frost, geraniums love to bask in warm-weather. Most types flower best in full sun, which means at least six hours of direct sun a day. If you live in a hot region with regular summer temperature over 90 degrees F 32 degrees C , plant your geraniums in a partly shaded spot. Geraniums like rich soil that is well drained. Compost added to your soil will give them an added boost. Plant container geraniums into pots filled with container potting mix. When growing geraniums, remember that they are heavy feeders. Give them fertilizer every two weeks or once a month at the very least. Use a balanced, water-soluble fertilizer such as , or feed them at planting time with a time-release fertilizer that lasts all season. Regular fertilizing is especially important for container-grown plants. The key thing about watering geraniums is to water them thoroughly, but let the soil dry between waterings. Check containers daily during hot summer weather. The best way to do this is to use a water meter or poke a finger into the soil. Leaves can die and turn brown for a number of reasons, mostly because geraniums are quite sensitive to fungal disease from excess moisture and humidity. Keep your plants looking their best by deadheading them and removing dried or discolored leaves. Your geraniums will reward you by looking great all season. You can grow geraniums indoors over winter, or take cuttings, or keep them dormant in a cool, dark basement. All the how-to Information is here. Grow geraniums from seed In the past, most commercially grown plants were propagated from cuttings. But advances in plant breeding have changed that. There are now many excellent seed-grown varieties that outperform many older cutting-grown varieties. Get the how-to on growing geraniums from seed.

## Chapter 2 : Growing Geraniums from Seed

*How to Grow Geraniums. In this Article: Article Summary Planting Your Geraniums Caring for Your Geraniums Community Q&A Geraniums grow in riotous reds, pretty pinks, wondrous whites, passionate purples the list goes on.*

At the garden center, geraniums tend to come in larger sizes, which make them more expensive than other summer annuals. Unlike many of their peers, geraniums can easily be stored over the winter and enjoyed again next year. Methods of Overwintering Geraniums There are three ways to make geraniums last through the winter: Overwinter inside as potted plants. Store the dormant, bare roots. Propagate cuttings to make new plants. Geraniums as Indoor Potted Plants The easiest way to keep your geraniums over the winter is simply to bring them inside. If yours are already in containers, you get to save a step! Cut the plants back by a third to a half. Save the cuttings and root them to make more geraniums! Water the pots thoroughly. Place the pots in a bright, cool spot. Over the winter, pinch back the tips of new shoots to help them branch out. Water the cuttings whenever the soil becomes dry. Fertilize your geraniums in mid-spring. Move them back outdoors after all danger of frost has passed. You can keep them in their containers, or plant them back in your flower beds. Overwintering Bare-Root Geraniums Geraniums have nice thick roots and stems that allow them to survive winter dormancy if kept above freezing. You can also allow geraniums to go dormant and store them as bare roots. Before the first frost, carefully dig up your geraniums, and shake all the dirt off the roots. Every month or so, pull your geraniums out and soak the roots in water for a couple of hours. Allow them to dry before storing again. The leaves will eventually all fall off, but the stems should stay firm. If the stems shrivel up too, the plant is likely a goner! Inspect your geraniums early in the spring. Remove any shriveled sections. Soak the roots for a few hours in water mixed with a little plant food. Plant the roots in potting soil and water thoroughly. Place your potted geraniums in a sunny window, or under a grow light. They might take a few weeks to wake up and start growing! After all danger of frost has passed, you can move them outdoors. Geraniums can also be rooted from cutting using rooting hormone. Propagating Geraniums From Cuttings The last option is to say goodbye to your original geraniums and nurture new ones grown from cuttings. The best cuttings come from the terminal end the very tip end of the stem , rather than a side branch. Pinch off the leaves from the bottom third of the cutting, and remove any flower buds. Dip the bottom of each cutting in rooting hormone, making sure to dust the wounds where you removed the leaves. Plant the bottom third of each cutting in peat moss, sand, or perlite. You can use individual pots or plant them together in a tray plastic planting trays are available with a clear cover to hold in moisture. Place the pots on a drainage tray and water thoroughly, ideally from the bottom up fill the tray with water and allow it to soak to keep from washing away the rooting hormone. Cover your pots with clear plastic, or use the cover that came with the tray. Place in a bright window out of direct sun. Keep the planting medium moist by soaking in the drainage tray, or removing the plastic cover and lightly misting the plants and soil. Your cuttings should root in 6 to 8 weeks. By early next spring, you can to move them to their own pots with regular potting soil. Fertilize your new plants, and pinch back the new stems in order to make them branch out. Move the pots to a sunny window until time to plant them outdoors.

## Chapter 3 : How to Grow Geraniums: 12 Steps (with Pictures) - wikiHow

*Learn all the information you will need to grow beautiful hardy perennial geraniums. Included is a guide to choosing the right variety and zones for hardiness and learn how and where to plant and how to deal with diseases and pests.*

Growing geraniums from seed iStock Photo Growing geraniums from seed used to take a back seat to propagation from cuttings. In the past, most nursery-grown plants came from cuttings. But that has changed with advances in plant breeding. Now we can choose from excellent seed-grown varieties that outperform many older cutting-grown varieties. Where to get geranium seeds Coral zonal geranium Many seed companies offer excellent Geranium hybrids. All of the hybrids mentioned here are available in a variety of colors. How to start geraniums from seed Geraniums are slow from seed, so start them early – in mid- to late January. Your plants will begin blooming about 12 to 16 weeks after sowing. The seeds have a tough outer coats, so to increase germination rates, it helps to moisten them before sowing. Dampen several paper towels. Spread seeds over half the surface, and fold other half over top. Put damp folded paper towels and seeds into a plastic zip-lock bag to keep moist. After 24 hours, the seeds should have started to germinate. For sowing, use a commercial growing mix. To avoid fungal disease damping-off , make sure your containers are clean and have drainage holes. If you like to reuse two-and-a-half inch nursery pots like I do, wash them in soapy water, and disinfect in a rinse containing a little bleach one part chlorine bleach to nine parts water. Moisten growing mix in a big container. Add just enough water to get the mix damp as a sponge, but avoid letting it get sopping wet. Let stand for an hour or two to absorb moisture. Fill individual pots with growing mix to about one inch from the top. Use a spray bottle or a small watering can with a fine rose. Label pots and put them in a plastic bag closed with a twist tie. Make sure your seedlings have good light. Once two true leaves appear the first leaves are seed leaves , remove covers. Let them grow a week or two before transplanting seedlings into individual pots. Be sure to keep the soil mix moist – but not soggy. Watering from the bottom is ideal. Set the pots into a shallow tray with water, and remove them when the top is moist. Geraniums from seed – seedling care Transplanting geranium seedlings iStock Photo Grow your seedlings on a window sill with good sunlight – south-facing is ideal – or set them under fluorescent lights with the lights on for 12 to 14 hours daily. This is easy with a timer. Once a week, feed with a water-soluble fertilizer diluted to half-strength. Once the plants are growing strongly, pinch off the tops to keep plants compact and promote branching. For information about when and how to take your plants outdoors, see seedling care and hardening off. Seed or cutting grown? Geraniums from seed are usually single-flowered. Their flowers tend to shatter when blooming is finished, which means not as much deadheading for you. Seed grown types are available in a wide range of colors: Cutting-grown geraniums can have single, semi-double or fully double flowers. Deadhead these plants to keep them presentable and to reduce fungal disease problems. Many zonal and ivy types, regal geraniums Martha Washington types and scented-leafed varieties are grown from cuttings. You can take cuttings of your seed-grown plants if you want to keep them going another season.

## Chapter 4 : | Southern Living

*Geraniums grow best with night temperatures of 50° to 60°F but will survive if they drop to 32° and/or rise above 80°F, as long as they are kept relatively dry. When new growth appears, cut off all the old leaves.*

All over the country, geraniums flaunt their red and scarlet, rose, pink, and white blooms with a gay abandon that few other plants can rival. This post may contain affiliate links. In boxes on city fire escapes and rooftops, in window boxes on suburban and country houses, in tubs and pots on terraces and patios, and in hanging baskets of the porches of summer cottages, they are beloved and cherished plants. It needs sun to bloom; it tolerates shade, where it is usually handled as a foliage plant. What it resents is too much moisture and a rich diet. Kept too wet, the leaves turn yellow; given a heavy soil, one high in nitrogen plants go to foliage and flower sparingly. Even if you choose no other plants, you could have a varied potted garden of single and double zonal, fancy-leaved or variegated, scented-leaved, ivy and Lady or Martha Washington geraniums also called show or fancy geraniums, not to mention a few oddities of cactus and climbing types. Types of Geraniums The zonal geranium is characterized by dark circular markings on the rounded green leaves. Double types dominate the trade and are offered by florists in the spring for planting in gardens and window boxes. Variegated geraniums, with leaves that are often brilliantly colored, are attractive even out of bloom. Set among green-leaved geraniums and other foliage plants, pots of the variegated plants add color and pattern. The trailing, ivy-leaved geraniums are among the most profuse flowering when grown under favorable conditions. They dislike shade and high humidity and thrive best in climates with warm days and cool nights, as in California. Like the ivy-leaved, they prefer cool nights and warm, sunny days, preferring shelter from wind and all-day sun. If you are a geranium gardener, you may want to spark your pot plant collection with some cactus and climbing geraniums. They will give you bizarre and fascinating forms and flowers and are certain to arouse comment. Growing Geraniums in Pots Geraniums flourish and look well in pots, boxes, and planters. They thrive in various soil mixtures if drainage is good. For abundant bloom, however, supply a special preparation, not high in nitrogen, or lush foliage and few blooms will result. I have success with good garden soil and a sprinkling of a fertilizer and bone meal. During the growing season, plants respond to a low-nitrogen fertilizer in liquid form. When potting, be generous with drainage material to insure free passage of water. As with any plant, always water with care, since too much or not enough can be harmful. The best rule is to water when the surface of the soil feels dry. Then soak the soil well and do not water again until plants need it. If soil is kept too wet, leaves will turn yellow; if too dry they wilt and discolor. To maintain even plant growth, turn containers from time to time. Remove yellow leaves and faded blossoms which are especially distracting on plants at doorways or any other key spots. If rain rots and disfigures the center florets of the heads, pull them off with your fingers, leaving the unmarred outer florets and buds. How to Grow Geraniums from Cuttings If you want plants for next spring, take two- to four-inch cuttings in August or early September. Look for mature stems with leaves spaced close together that break easily like a snap bean. Woody growth is hard to root and succulent tips tend to rot. Before planting spread out cuttings in a shady place for several hours so leaves will lose excess moisture. When ready to plant, cut off the lower leaves, allowing but two or three to each cutting. Also pull off the little wings on the stem, since they are inclined to rot. Dip stem ends in hydrated lime to prevent decay and then insert about halfway, in a flat or large pot of pure sand or a mixture of sand and peat moss. With geraniums, rooting powders are hardly necessary. Fill with a mixture of three parts sandy loam and one part peat moss or leaf mold. After planting, keep in the shade for the first few days, and bring indoors before cold weather. Use the same potting mixture as before, with bone meal added. Later as established plants begin to grow, feed periodically with a high phosphorous fertilizer, as or Geranium Care To keep plants bushy and to encourage branching, pinch while small, starting when they are three to four inches high. Provide sunny windows, and keep turning pots to prevent lopsided growth. Water regularly, but allow soil to dry out just a little between applications. Geranium Winter Care Plants may be wintered in cool cellars with little light. Remember only that the less light, the cooler the temperatures should be. This is because too much warmth and insufficient light cause lanky growth that undermines a healthy plant.

Gardeners with cellars or sheds when temperatures remain above freezing, can winter geraniums hanging upside down from the ceiling. The dead-looking sticks, set out in pots or in the garden in warm weather, will astound you when they develop into glorious flowering plants. Written by Mary Hanna, reprinted with permission.

### Chapter 5 : PERFECT PELARGONIUMS: Show Winner

*A few perennial geraniums bloom just once, usually early in the season. Most will start blooming in mid-summer and repeat bloom sporadically throughout the growing season. Newer varieties, like 'Rozanne', bloom non-stop all summer.*

Growing Geraniums from Seed March 22, If you have the right conditions, growing seed geraniums from seed is relatively easy. I set out in and again in to describe the process for others. I ended up experiencing almost every failure one could, along with making some really stupid mistakes along the way. Those blogs remain online as an exercise in writer honesty and humility. Hover mouse over images to reveal labeling. Click on images to open larger image in new tab or window. Growing geraniums from seed has the advantage of not carrying disease forward as propagating from leaf and stem cuttings can do. Self grown geraniums can be timed to match ones own transplanting schedule in the garden and flower beds. Seed We now get most of our geranium seed from Twilley Seeds. They carry our favorite Maverick Red variety shown above right and many other varieties of geraniums. We also got some good ivy leaf geranium seed in from Burpee. Stokes Seeds , another reliable seed vendor, carries a full line of good geranium seed. Shopping for bargains on geranium seed never seems to work out for us. The seed is spaced on a damp coffee filter which gets folded over the seed to ensure the seed gets all the moisture it needs. The coffee filter then goes into a Ziplock freezer bag sandwich bags tend to let out too much moisture with just a bit more water added to the bag. My thanks to Mike Bryce for that info. So instead of hunting for a warm, dark closet to germinate our seed, it now goes into a covered plant tray under our plant lights. The tray rests on a soil heating mat that is thermostatically controlled. In just a few days, often less than five, the seeds begin to sprout. Before the sprouts get too big, I very gently lift them from the coffee filter and place the seed in a slight depression in some sterile potting mix in a 3" pot or a fourpack cell. I then lightly cover, or more accurately, surround the seed with vermiculite to hold in moisture. Note that one can also start geranium seed in pots or insert cells on sterile potting mix, pressing the seed into the damp mix, lightly covering it with soil or vermiculite. With the coffee filter method, even though each seed has germinated, not every one will flourish and produce a plant. But moving the seed to individual small pots saves having a few cells in fourpack inserts without plants. Using individual 3" pots allows me to spread out the plants as they begin to put on some size. We ended up getting nineteen good seed geraniums in from twenty-five seeds started from seed purchased in early Of course, seed houses buy seed in quantity and store it in temperature and humidity controlled conditions, sometimes selling the seed over several years. Care As soon as the seed pushes out of the vermiculite and is an upright, if tiny, plant, I move them off the soil heating mat. While geraniums may need temperatures in the 70s to sprout, once up, they like a bit cooler temperatures. I keep the lights several inches above the top of the tallest plant. If the leaves begin to bleach out, I know my lights are too close to the plants. But from this point on, geraniums are pretty forgiving plants. In about a month, one should have some very healthy looking, small geraniums plants. The images left and right taken on February 27, are of our seed geraniums. The mixed Orbit series and Maverick Reds seeded on January 19 are on the left, and our Summer Showers ivy leaf trailing geraniums started on January 29 are on the right. We often experience a real logjam under our plant lights each spring, necessitating a bit of inventiveness to keep all of our plants and transplants growing well. But with an oil heater, I can usually begin moving geraniums, onion and brassica transplants, and even some gloxinias to the room in late January or early February. While the baby geranium plants in the three inch pots initially used are really cute, they rather quickly need more root space. I use commercial potting soil cut with about one-third peat moss for the transplanting. I did this transplanting, as I often do, outside on a warm spring day. So once again I had to get a little creative on plant space, putting both our standard geraniums and the ivy leaf ones, now in hanging basket pots, on our dining room table in front of a large, east facing bay window. Hardening Off Plants grown inside under artificial lighting or in a greenhouse need to be hardened off before being transplanted into the garden. If not hardened off, transplants often quickly fail under the harsher outdoor growing conditions. We harden off our transplants under a homemade cold frame. The frame gets completely closed at night to hold in the warmth of the day, but is opened gradually through days to allow our transplants

more and more exposure to the harsher growing conditions outdoors. During this time, stems and leaves toughen, getting the plants ready to survive in the ground. Those lacking a cold frame could easily employ a sheltered area on a porch, gradually moving the plants each day into more and more sunlight. We like the cold frame, as it allows us to get an early start, being able to put plants under it even while we still experience overnight frosts and light freezes. But I have all the parts necessary on hand to build another to more moderate dimensions, weighted with a bit of concrete to add ballast. Typically, our geraniums are some of the last of our transplants to go under the cold frame to harden off. The process of exposing them to outdoor growing conditions takes a week or two. What do we do with our geraniums? We grow lots and lots of geraniums each year, sometimes forty or more! We do so because we like to put a geranium at each corner of our raised garden beds. We also use them at the ends of rows, replacing the wooden stakes used in planting with something much more attractive. Geraniums mixed with petunias, vincas, marigolds, and snapdragons almost steal the show from our vegetables, the reason we garden. And while vegetable crops come and go in succession through a growing season, our geraniums and other flowers stay put, gloriously blooming all summer and fall. [Growing Geraniums from Seed - Sterile Potting Mix - How we prevent the dreaded damping off disease when starting seedlings.](#) [October 27, Building a Raised Garden Bed - Here are a few tips and links for building a raised garden bed with large 6"x6" timbers.](#) Then in and again in , I decided to record the process in blogs. I made some horrible mistakes those two years, and then and later suffered from getting bad seed. After being thoroughly humbled about my geranium growing abilities, I became much more careful about our practices, and we returned to growing all the geraniums we could use and give away once again. Instead, I plan to use vincas at the corners of our raised beds in , spacing our geraniums along the sides of the beds. Even with some new physical challenges from hip and heart surgeries in , gardening proves to be one of my greater joys in life. I hope the Lord allows me to keep doing it and blogging about it for some time to come. Enjoy the content on Senior Gardening? If so, why not come back to our Senior Gardening Advertisers page the next time you plan to purchase something online and click through one of our ads. Contact Steve Wood, the at Senior Gardening.

### Chapter 6 : 4 Ways to Grow Geraniums in Pots - wikiHow

*Geraniums are a fairly simple to start plant and require little maintenance, which could be part of the reason they are so popular. Follow along as we take a look at the basics of starting and maintaining a lush, flowering garden of geraniums.*

Geraniums are beautiful, hearty and colorful flowers, and a lovely addition to any home. Source Geraniums are Easy to Grow Geraniums are a delightful way to add color to your patio, and, if you live in a mild climate, you can keep the same geranium plant going for years. They are found in the Mediterranean area of Europe as well as throughout the southern United States. They come in a wide variety of colors including white, red, pink, purple, and even blue! Most geraniums are winter-hardy plants except in areas that receive very harsh, cold weather for long periods of time. These plants are also long lived. I have had one geranium plant that has continued to grow and bloom for nearly two decades. By taking cuttings from that original plant, I now have half a dozen additional ones on my patio. These flowers grow well in either full sun or partial shade. In addition, they are amazingly easy to transplant. In fact, with one healthy geranium plant, you can take numerous cuttings and grow new ones for years. They are such easy flowers to transplant that many people have rarely had to buy a new one. Because of this, it is delightful to surround your home with voluptuous pots of geraniums There are even stories about people who have actually just stuck a cutting from a geranium into a flower bed and had it grow. However, if you want better odds of success, follow the detailed instructions that are given below.

**Items Needed to Transplant Geraniums**

A Geranium plant  
Potting Soil  
Pots for you new plants

Once you have gathered the items together which you need, read on to see the specific directions to insure you will get good results.

**Steps to Growing a New Geranium**

Fill your new pots with potting soil, leaving an inch or two at the top so the soil will not overflow when you water the plant. Trim excess foliage from your original, mature geranium. Keep these trimmings, because they are what you will transplant into the new pots. Trim leaves away from the bottom of your cutting, so you have a few inches of the cutting which can serve as the root for your new plant. Finally, you will immediately plant your new geranium cutting into the pot of potting soil. Water the plant frequently until the roots begin to grow and take root. Before you know it, you will have blooms!

### Chapter 7 : Geraniums Galore - A Container Garden Delight - Creative Homemaking

*Using fertilizer and pesticides will prevent many problems with your geraniums. Get tips for avoiding common geranium growing problems in this free landscaping video about how to grow geraniums.*

Geraniums not only smell amazing, but you can find them in just about every shade of red and pink you can imagine. If you wish to add geraniums to your flower beds, flower pots, and landscaping this year, check out these 7 Tips for Growing Geraniums. When you give these simple tips a try you can enjoy a season that is full of color, fragrance, and the most gorgeous geraniums around. Choose a healthy start. Half the battle is finding a healthy start or seedling. Buy your geraniums from a trusted gardening center. Look for healthy green leaves, no sign of yellowing, dryness, or pests, and choose plants with plenty of budding on them. Use more potting mix, less dirt. Geraniums do well when they are in a mixture that consists of more potting mix and less dirt. They really need the nutrients and prefer the airy mixture. This is a huge mistake people make when taking care of this plant. Instead, water well then allow the pot to completely dry out before you water again. The idea is to water deep, dry out completely. A slow release fertilizer works well. Use a slow release fertilizer after you plant and again a few weeks later. A liquid fertilizer is ideal and will do the work for you. Always follow package directions. Give them hours of direct sun. Geraniums do love to be warm. They should have at least hours of direct sun each day. If you are having trouble getting that much sun in one spot, put your pot on wheels so you can shift it around as needed. Geraniums will not do well and continue to bloom if you leave spent blooms on the plant. Instead you need to deadhead as you see dead foliage as this will keep the plant healthy and make sure it spends its resources where it needs to: You CAN bring geraniums inside during the cold months and winter season. If you do, they will continue to grow for you during the winter months. Otherwise, it is an annual and will die if left outdoors. If you do plant it in a container, why not try to bring it in at the end of the season and continue to enjoy it? If you love geraniums and want to enjoy more growing success, give these 7 Tips for Growing Geraniums a try. They are perfect for getting bright, full blooms that are sure to impress the neighbors and put on a show all summer long! More Flower Gardening Tips:

### Chapter 8 : How to Grow a Geranium Plant From a Cutting | Dengarden

*You can grow geranium cuttings over winter as well as during the summer months. These step-by-step instructions show how to root cuttings and grow them as plants. If you want to keep your geraniums (Pelargoniums) for next year, see 4 Easy Ways to Overwinter Geraniums.*

While the experts keep telling us that common geraniums are really pelargoniums, most of us take no notice. Australian tourists visiting Europe in summer are often astonished by the striking show these flowers produce. By contrast, our geraniums are often expected to struggle on for years with almost total neglect. Unsurprisingly, geraniums that are well looked after will produce consistently good results. The first step is to feed with a flower-promoting plant food throughout the growing season. The easiest way to do this is with a long-lasting fertiliser such as Acticote Acticote for Roses would be the most suitable. Simply mix according to directions and apply fortnightly throughout spring, summer and autumn. If the plants are leggy or have dead patches, trim out dead stems and shorten back any twiggy, bare shoots. Geraniums pelargoniums are particularly prone to rust, a fungal disease that causes yellow-orange, raised, powdery spots to spoil the leaves. You can also reduce the risk of infection by growing the plants in a sunny spot with good air movement, and by watering at the base of the plant in the morning. Keeping leaves dry helps stops fungal spores from taking hold. Pluck off any dead or dying flowers. If left, these could become infected with another problem called grey mould. Grey mould causes the flowers to develop grey, furry growths that stick the petals together. Remove affected flowers, wrap them in plastic and put them into the bin. Members of another group, ivy geraniums, are aptly named because their smooth, shiny leaves have an ivy shape. Ivy geraniums are soft-stemmed climbers that, with some support, can cover a large area. Ivy geraniums can also be used to great effect for covering sloping banks. While ivy geraniums require much the same type of care as the zonal varieties, they can suffer from a disease called bacterial leaf spot that causes brownish, sunken spots on the leaves. This disease is particularly prevalent during warm, wet weather. Remove damaged foliage and spray with Yates new Liquid Copper Fungicide.

### Chapter 9 : Geraniums: How to Plant, Grow, and Care for Geraniums | The Old Farmer's Almanac

*Ivy-Leaf Geranium (Pelargonium peltatum) - As their name implies, these geraniums have a trailing habit and ivy-shaped leaves. The flowers are smaller and less showy than zonal geraniums and the plants are often used as spillers in containers.*

A variety of blue cranesbill geranium. Source Where to Plant I consider it a bonus that perennial geraniums will grow in both part sun and shade. My first plant was grown in a sunny spot and it grew like crazy. The next one I grew in the shade and it did well also. These plants will grow well in all soil types. Plant in a spot that has a least average moisture or you will need to keep it watered. You may want to use it as a ground cover or in a border. When choosing a spot, keep in mind that it is a shorter plant and would do best if placed in front of larger plants. They are beautiful in a spot of their own also. Care This is a low-maintenance plant and will require little care. Follow these easy steps and you should have a beautiful plant. Water the plant when needed when the soil gets dry. Water frequently if the plant is in full sun. Keep a check on any insects or disease that may attack the plant. Look for eggs on the bottom of leaves. Divide plants at least every 5 years. You should find it an easy-to-grow plant. If you do have any of these problems, follow the advice below. The Four-Lined Plant Bug can be a problem in some areas of the country. The insect has two stages of life. One as a nymph and the other as an adult insect. The nymphs hatch in the spring and may travel from other plants. They like to suck the plants and the attacked leaves will look shriveled or will be brown and dying. The adult has a yellow or green body with four black lines. This makes it easy to identify. To get rid of the infestation there are different solutions. The safest is just to spray water on the plants and kill the bugs as they fall to the ground. You can use insecticides if necessary. Downy Mildew - This is a disease that can be found on many varieties of plants and is usually caused by the same problems. It is a mold. First of all, be sure the plant is in an area where it is getting good air circulation. Otherwise you will need a spray for plant fungus. Bacterial Leaf Spot - This plant disease is caused when it is damp and cool and spreads quickly. It can cause leaves to drop and is important to treat the plant as soon as possible. Remove the leaves that show disease. This will help prevent the disease from spreading to other leaves. Brown Leaves - The problem may only be caused by the soil needing some water. If the summer is hotter than usual, the plants may need some shade. Just try covering the plants with newspaper or cloth in the hot afternoons. Consider moving the plants to a shadier spot. Holes in the leaves - If you are having problems with tiny holes in the leaves it is most likely caused by caterpillars. How to Garden with Hardy Geraniums How to Propagate The geraniums can be divided easily, especially since they spread so quickly. Make sure that you leave a nice rooting of the plant in the ground and have some root on your new start. Some varieties can be started from seed. I always find a few extra plants that have seeded themselves.