



## **Care of Hanging Baskets**

With a little care, hanging baskets will last well into the autumn. Here are a few tips on caring for your hanging basket.

## Watering

Hanging baskets can dry out very quickly. When you purchased your basket from Braywick Heath Nurseries, a water saving gel will have been added to the compost together with a timed-release fertiliser and this will help to conserve water.

To test if your basket is dry, lift up from the bottom of the container - dry baskets will be very lightweight and should be watered at once. You can also feel the soil, if it feels dry one cm below the soil surface then it must be watered. When you water, be sure to water enough so that it drains out of the drainage holes. Always water early morning or late evening.

If your basket has dried out too much you will need to immerse it in a bucket of water to re-soak the soil mix.

## **Fertilising**

Apart from the timed-release fertiliser already added, a liquid fertiliser such as tomato feed can be used once a week throughout the season. Make sure the soil is moist before using. This will help replenish the soil, as frequent watering flushes nutrients from the soil.

## **Dead-heading**

It is important to remove all faded flowers after they have bloomed. This will promote additional flowers to form. Some plants such as verbena and lobelia benefit from being cut back in mid-summer. This will promote further branching and flower formation.

Finally, if you have any questions about your basket please do not hesitate to contact us; we want you to enjoy your purchase from us to the full.

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