

### **Clematis 'Fond Memories'** Eventual height 8'/2.5m *Classed as a Group 2 clematis*

A large-flowered cultivar that flowers through from late spring to early summer on sideshoots from the previous year's growth. It will also flower mid to late summer on the tips of the current year's shoots. It is a deciduous plant and you should beware of hard frosts that may damage early top growth. However this will be replenished and should not affect the plant's flowering season. As with all clematis, early pinching and training is very important, so as to ensure that the plant is not top heavy.

#### **Planting in the garden**

Choose a suitable site for your clematis, preferably in full sun but with the roots in some shade and grown in a well-drained soil. You should also try to avoid planting in an area that will be exposed to strong, drying winds. Prepare the soil well, incorporating a generous handful of a well-balanced fertiliser. If your soil is not of a fine 'crumbly' texture, it will benefit from an application of any organic matter. After digging, rake over the soil to a fine tilth and firm by treading over the area. Rake over again. Water your plant well before planting. Plant the stem 1"/2.5cm below soil level as this will help avoid problems with clematis wilt. Firm in well and gently water in. Water as necessary until the next good rain and during any dry periods. Please be careful not to over water; clematis are better grown on the dry side rather than being too wet. You should also provide support for the plant to climb, as and when required. Clematis can be trained against walls using trellis work and are suitable for obelisks and pergolas in the garden. They can also be grown through trees and shrubs.

#### **Planting in hanging baskets**

Generally allow a single plant per 12"/30cm basket. Place the mesh liner, moss or any other suitable lining material if required and half fill with good, moist, free-draining, compost. Adding slow-release fertiliser to the compost will be beneficial. Fill up the basket with compost, and plant up. Once planted, water well using a watering can fitted with a rose to settle the compost around the roots. Hang in light shade, sheltered from strong winds. Keep the compost moist, but not waterlogged. Prune back to 12"/30cm during the first spring after planting, then in subsequent years prune as directed later.

#### **Planting in containers**

Pot your plant into a 12"/30cm pot using a good compost and provide support. Water in and place in a sheltered, shady position for a couple of days to acclimatise, followed by a sunny sheltered site and keep just

moist. Throughout the first growing season, pinch out the tips of all new shoots to leave two pairs of leaves. This will produce a strong, bushy framework and good root system, important for the next year. A few flowers will be produced this year but it is next year that you will have a stunning display. In December, cut back to 12"/30cm. Keep frost-free in a conservatory or cold greenhouse. Next spring repeat the pinching-out procedure to all new shoots but stop when flower buds can be identified in the leaf axils. To maintain the plant's vigour during the growing season, feed weekly with the specialist fertiliser supplied with your kit, until the flower buds are the size of your fingernail. As the clematis matures, re-pot annually at this time of year adding a 36"/90cm support at the same time.

#### **Pests and diseases**

The largest problem with clematis is Clematis Wilt which is caused by a fungus entering the stem near soil level that causes the whole plant to collapse. Clematis that fall victim to this problem should be cut down to ground level and the soil drenched with a copper-based fungicide. Clematis Wilt can be avoided by planting deeply so that a root crown of healthy shoots can develop. Clematis could also be affected by mildew, and this can be prevented by spraying with a similar spray to that recommended for roses. Other problems could be slugs and snails, or aphids and white fly, which should be sprayed with a suitable pesticide at first sign of attack.

#### **Pruning and training**

All newly planted clematis in the garden need to be pruned back hard to within 12"/30cm of soil level during the first spring after planting. Pruning should be done before growth begins in early spring. Simply remove dead, diseased and damaged growth and trim all remaining stems back to the nearest strong bud. These buds then create the framework of second-year shoots which produce sideshoots that will flower in late spring and early summer. The young shoots then bear further flowers later in the summer.

#### **Gift voucher**

You will also have received a Thompson & Morgan plant voucher with your clematis kit. This may be redeemed against orders placed online at [www.thompson-morgan.com](http://www.thompson-morgan.com) or you can request a plant catalogue by calling 0844 573 2020.

## **100% Quality Satisfaction Guarantee**

We promise to supply only top quality products, securely packaged so they reach you and your gift recipient in prime condition.

- \* Please advise us within **14 days** of receipt if there are any quality issues with your product. We will replace the product (subject to availability) or credit the purchase price.
- \* Please advise us within **30 days** of receipt if your product does not show any signs of healthy growth. Provided the care instructions have been followed exactly, we will replace the product (subject to availability) or credit the purchase price.
- \* Please note that refunds are only payable to the original purchaser of the gift.

We cannot accept responsibility for items that fail to grow due to extreme weather conditions, over- or under-watering, or which have not been cared for according to the instructions supplied. Our liability is strictly limited to the purchase price of the items ordered.

We strive to provide the best products and level of service possible and generally all our customers are satisfied first time. Occasionally our product or service is not 100% perfect, mainly due to factors outside our control such as mishandling in the postal system. We regularly review our procedures and suppliers to ensure we provide the best service from the start.

**Should you wish to contact our Customer Care Team, please write to the address printed on your message card.**

## **Our Shared Responsibility**

All we ask is that you look after your gift according to the instructions provided for maximum enjoyment. Plants and bulbs are as different as people, but like people they almost always thrive when their basic needs are met. By growing our plants and bulbs and following our care instructions, you can be sure of success.

We do understand that when dealing with living plants, occasionally problems may arise despite our mutual best efforts. In these instances we ask you to draw the problems to our attention so that we may help wherever we can. However, if your plants do not grow properly due to inappropriate treatment or neglect on your part, while we may share your disappointment, we regret we cannot share your loss. We promise to do our job to the highest standards and we rely on you to use your best endeavours to achieve the optimum results.

# **Care Instructions for Outdoor Gifts**

## **PLEASE READ CAREFULLY**

Ref: C295

**The top line of your address label states the item you have received. If this has been sent as a gift, you may find a message from the sender on the inside of the address carrier card. Please read these instructions carefully before proceeding any further.**

Our plants and bulbs are raised in a perfect growing environment and carefully packed to ensure they are received in tip-top condition. However, sometimes the postal carrier is not as gentle with our products as we would like, and you may find that a small amount of compost has become dislodged in transit. This is nothing to worry about and will not affect the performance of your plant.

Often when plants are contained within a dark box, even for a short period, the foliage and shoots become discoloured. If this is your experience, please be assured that this is nothing to worry about as they will revert to their usual colour within a few days.

If your arrangement has been supplied in a basket, this has been lined with plastic to avoid water leaking onto the surface below. However, we do not recommend placing the basket directly onto furniture as the plastic lining may 'sweat' and leave a mark. Decorative pot covers and pots are not guaranteed to be waterproof. We recommend that all containers be placed on a mat and not directly on top of furniture in case of water damage or scratching.

**Enjoy your gift.**

## Roses

Your rose will arrive either root-wrapped, as a bare root plant or in a pot depending on the time of year, and may be showing little or no sign of growth. If supplied as a bare root, soak the roots in a bucket of water for 2 hours prior to planting. Please be aware that the ends of your rose stems may have been 'waxed' to prevent disease from entering the stem. This is normal practice and does not harm the plant.

### Bush/shrub/species rose

#### Many Happy Returns

*Floribunda. Height less than 39"/1m*

*Flowering period: repeat. Good for hips.*

*Use: Borders, mixed planting, small beds, containers, half standard.*

#### Special Anniversary

*Repeat flowering*

*Use: Mixed planting, large beds, cutting, half and full standard, indoors.*

### General information for these categories

*Height 30"/75cm, spread 24"/60cm*

*Repeat flowering May to September; good for hips.*

*Use in borders, mixed planting and hedging.*

### Pruning

Each year, prune back lightly to keep neat, tidy and within the allotted space. Reduce growth of the main stems by up to a third if necessary, and reduce sideshoots by half. Prune either in late winter for repeat-flowering types, or summer, after flowering, for those which flower only once.

### Patio rose

#### Silver Wishes, Ruby Wishes, Golden Wishes, Diamond Wishes, Sweet Memories

*Height 24"/60cm, spread 24"/60cm*

*Repeat flowering*

*Use in borders, small beds, containers, or train as half standard*

### Pruning

During the season remove flowers as they fade. At the end of the flowering season (usually autumn) cut back growth to 12-18"/30-45cm and reduce side shoots back to 2 or 3 buds

## Hybrid tea rose

### Warm Wishes

*Height approx 24"/60cm, spread 24"/60cm*

*Flowering period: continuous flowering.*

*Use: Borders, mixed planting, beds, full standard.*

### Pruning

Newly planted roses will benefit from pruning top growth back to approx 6"/15cm. In subsequent years large-flowered roses are best pruned to 3-5 buds from the base of the previous season's growth during March/early April.

### Standard/half-standard rose

A unique type of rose whereby grafting has taken place to give a head of blooms aloft an upright stem, thus forming a standard plant. Standards are usually made from Hybrid Tea or Floribunda type roses.

Plant as a specimen or in a group, allowing at least 4'/1.2m between plants. After planting, reduce all stems back to 8"/20cm. In subsequent years hard pruning is not required. Simply prune back stems lightly in order to keep a shapely head, ensuring that all branches are reduced back to an equal length. This should be done during March/April.

### General instructions - all roses

#### Planting in the garden

Try to avoid planting when the weather is wet and the soil soggy or the ground frozen. Any garden soil in full sun is sufficient. Prepare the soil well by mixing in plenty of organic matter and a good general-purpose granular fertiliser. Dig out a planting hole large enough to take all the roots without bending or cramping them. Place the roots in the hole and refill around them with topsoil. You must ensure that the entire root area is completely covered with soil; leaving air pockets between the roots and the soil can kill the plant. Firm the soil with a gentle treading. Keep adding soil until the hole is full, then give a final firming with the heel so that the rose will not rock in the wind. Water plants well until established.

#### Planting in containers

Plant into containers at least 12"/30cm in diameter, using a good quality compost such as the soil-based John Innes No 3. You may also wish to mix in plenty of organic matter and a good general-purpose granular fertiliser to the compost.

### Maintenance

Remove any dead, damaged or diseased growth and deadhead regularly unless you want the plant to produce decorative hips. For best performance feed with a liquid fertiliser from spring to summer at 3-week intervals. Mulch plants well with fresh compost each winter to conserve moisture. Try to avoid pruning during frosty weather when the roses are dormant, therefore delay until early spring if you experience harsh winters. When pruning always reduce stems back to an outward facing bud to minimise risk of disease and to maintain good plant shape.

### Bay Tree

To enjoy your tree indoors keep it cool and moist. During its rest period (November to April) keep it cool and frost-free, and do not let the soil dry out. During the growing season (April to November) place in a sunny or semi-shaded spot outdoors. Water daily ensuring the soil is completely drenched. Fertilise regularly but with moderation. Prune to keep in shape. Re-pot every 3 years in September using potting soil. Add about 2"/5cm of new soil around the root clump.

## Camellia 'Yuletide'

Height/spread 2-5'/60-300cm

A super versatile shrub that is easy to care for, flowering from October-December. To enjoy your camellia indoors keep it cool and moist. It can be moved outside to the patio and planted into the garden from February onwards. This evergreen shrub thrives in full sun or shade. To grow in a patio pot, the pot should be at least 15-18"/38-45cm in diameter. Make sure that it is thoroughly clean before planting up and that it has a drainage hole and plenty of drainage material in the bottom. Fill with a soil-based mix. Plant firmly and water well. Ensure that the root-ball is fully covered when the soil has settled and that there is a space of 1"/2.5cm at the top of the pot for watering.

## Holly Tree

To enjoy your holly tree indoors keep it cool and moist. It can be moved outside and planted into the garden from February onwards. To grow in a patio pot the container should be at least 15-18"/38-45cm in diameter. Make sure that it is thoroughly clean and that it has a drainage hole and plenty of drainage material in the bottom. Fill with a soil-based mix. Plant firmly and water well. Ensure that the root-ball is fully covered when the soil has settled and that there is a space of 1"/2.5cm at the top of the pot for watering. When growing in the garden hollies prefer soil that is moist, well-drained, moderately fertile and humus-rich. Position in sun or part shade. Your plant is fully hardy and requires little pruning. Remove diseased or misplaced branches in the spring. To guarantee berries it is necessary to plant a male holly or another host plant such as Privet or Laurel nearby.

## Gardenia 'Kleim's Hardy'

Height 36"/90cm

An absolutely addictive fragrance, and now suitable for outdoor growing. Plants are hardy down to -10°C. Ideal for hedging or patio containers, 'Kleim's Hardy' is not fussy about soil and is suitable for sun or shade. Flowers from summer to autumn. Hardy perennial.

### Planting in containers

*Allow 1 plant per 10"/25cm pot; 3 plants per 20"/50cm or larger*

Make sure that your container is thoroughly clean before planting up and that it has a drainage hole and plenty of drainage material in the bottom. Cover the container base with broken clay pots, flat stones or gravel. Fill the container with compost. Remove the pot gently, plant firmly and water well after planting. Ensure that the root-ball is fully covered when the soil has settled and that there is a space of 1"/2.5cm at the top of the pot for watering.

### Planting in the garden

*Plant 36"/90cm apart.*

Prepare the soil well, incorporating a generous handful of a well-balanced fertiliser. If your soil is not of a fine 'crumbly' texture, it will benefit from an application of any organic matter. After digging, rake over the soil to a fine tilth and firm by treading over the area. Rake over again. Water your plants well before planting. Avoid damaging the roots and always try to ensure that the plant finishes up at the same level in the soil as it was when growing in the nursery. Make sure you do not plant too deeply, but it is essential that the plants are well firmed in. Gently water in and then water as necessary until the next good rain and during any dry periods.

### Maintenance

Regular feeding should begin 6-8 weeks after planting into the ground or containers; this will enhance your plants. General fertilisers will be sufficient if applied as recommended.

### Gift voucher

If you have received a pack of 3 plants, you will also have received a Thompson & Morgan plant voucher. This may be redeemed online at [www.thompson-morgan.com](http://www.thompson-morgan.com) or you can request a plant catalogue by calling 0844 573 2020.