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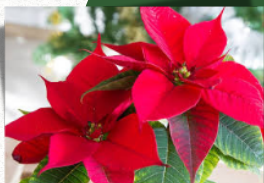
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Creating CLEAN & HEALTHY Spaces



DECEMBER GARDENING IN GAUTENG

Get ready to celebrate the magic of December by bringing out the best in your summer garden with our Gauteng December gardening guide



SPOTLIGHT ON ... POINSETTIA



ON YOUR TO-DO LIST FOR DECEMBER



DECORATING YOUR SUMMER GARDEN

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Holiday Getaway Checklist

Going away this month?

Here are some strategies for helping your garden survive the Holidays :

- Move plants in pots & hanging baskets out of direct sun.
- Mow your lawn & water it well. Postpone feeding your lawn until you return.
- Mulch flowerbeds.
- Pack all gardening tools & outdoor furniture in a safe location.

Enjoy your holiday & safe travels !





SPOTLIGHT ON: POINSETTIA

A bright & cheerful poinsettia makes for the perfect Christmas table centrepiece and will last well beyond the festive season if planted in the garden in a semi-shaded area.

These are our tips for selecting & caring for your poinsettia this summer:

- Select a full and balanced-looking plant that has dark green foliage and is at least two times taller than the pot.
- Place in a position that receives at least six hours of bright, but indirect light a day.
- Only water when the soil is dry.
- Feed with a soluble house plant fertiliser once a month.
- Note that extreme temperatures or temperature changes can damage the plant and lead it to lose some of its leaves.

**"Stay inspired.
Never stop
creating."**

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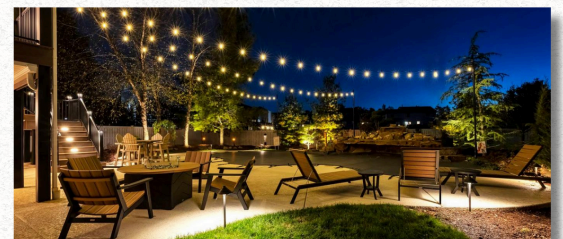
DECORATING YOUR SUMMER GARDEN

Since the holiday season is all about entertaining, get your garden into the festive spirit with these creative decorations:

- Create evening ambience by adding solar lights to pathways, trees and feature plants.



- Fairy lights around patio pot plants and hanging baskets will also add sparkle to your festive season.



- Consider livening up a dull area under a tree by planting LM Berea lawn (*Dactyloctenium Australe*).
- Plant coleus, impatiens & lavender to bring colour to garden beds.





ON YOUR TO-DO LIST FOR DECEMBER

Plant, Sow & Grow

- Plant hanging baskets with zinnia, marigolds, portulaca, alyssum, impatiens, begonia, coleus, dahlias & petunias.
- Sow vegetable seeds such as peppers, tomatoes & carrots for season-long fresh supply.
- Grow herbs such as rosemary, thyme & chives that can be incorporated into your summer cooking.

Pests

These are the common garden pests that may plague you this month, and the recommended insecticide:

- Whiteflies (use Protek Spraykill 3 or the organic Biogrow Neudosan)
- Mealybug and scale (best treated with Efekto Malasol or the organic Biogrow Bioneem)
- Lily borer (drench plants by using Protek Knox Worm)
- You can also implement budget-friendly, organic pest busters such as a spray of canola oil or catnip, or use the organic-based Ludwig's Organic Insect Spray.

Feed

- Feed garden beds every six weeks with seaweed-rich and organic Atlantic Fertilisers Bio Ocean or Talborne Organics Vita Fruit & Flower 3:1:5 (18) fertiliser.
- Lawns require a 7:1:3 fertiliser such as Atlantic Bio Lawn, Talborne Vita Green 5:1:5 (16) or Wonder Lawn & Leaf. The latter is chemical-based and will provide faster results, but requires watering three times or more a week to prevent burn.
- English gardens in full bloom should be fed with a 3:1:5 fertiliser. A good option is Talborne Organics Vita Fruit & Flower 3:1:5 (18) fertiliser, Wonder Fruit & Flower or the organic-based Atlantic Fertilisers Fruit & Flower, which is endorsed by the The Federation of Rose Societies of South Africa - <https://roses.org.za/home/>.

**“the SEED is
HOPE, the
FLOWER is
JOY”**