

SunPatiens® Growing Guide for Home Gardeners

SunPatiens® are the first impatiens that actually thrive in full sun to part shade. SunPatiens grow fast and fill in quickly thanks to their strong, durable root system. Many landscapers, home owners, growers and gardeners love the unstoppable flower power of SunPatiens with unrivaled three-season performance. Follow these simple guidelines for optimal performance.

- 1. Select a well-drained site with an open and porous soil. Heavy, clay-based soils that retain excess moisture may limit aeration of the roots, and should be amended with organic matter (peat, compost, etc.). Bedding Plants are sensitive to soil compaction from heavy foot traffic so avoid stepping in the flower beds after transplanting.
- 2. SunPatiens do well in various light exposures, from full sun to partial shade. SunPatiens may be planted under trees with high canopies or on the north side of homes where they receive a few hours of direct morning and or evening sunshine. Variegated leaf types are great options for heavy shade locations due to the attractive foliage.
- 3. During the first few weeks following transplanting it is important to water more frequently until the roots are well established into the surrounding soil. Until then, plants only have access to moisture in the initial soil ball and may be subject to wilting. SunPatiens will rebound quickly from wilt, however, with the addition of water. To avoid plant damage (leaf and flower burn), water early or late in the day when the plants are not under heat stress.
- 4. A light mulch is beneficial in reducing watering frequency, but avoid mounding it up too close to the base of the plants as this could cause stem rot.
- 5. SunPatiens do not require high rates of fertilizer. Options include scratching in a half-rate of slow release fertilizer (such as Osmocote[®]) on top of the soil or applying a liquid fertilizer (such as Miracle-Gro) at 1/3rd the recommended rate once every 2-3 weeks. Excess fertilization may actually result in less flower production and leaf-tip burn so avoid the temptation that more plant food is better. It is also beneficial to apply magnesium to the plants a few times a month by dissolving 1 teaspoon of Epsom Salt in one gallon of water.
- 6. Enjoy.