

Castle FARM

KENT, 1892

Thank you for purchasing a dried Castle Farm Hop Bine!



All our Hop Bines (also known as hop vines or hop garlands) are grown *specifically* for decoration – we cultivate them at extra wide spacing to promote the growth of flowers along the length of the Hop Bine.

The bines are cut to 3m (10ft) length and there are naturally more hops at one end of the bines. Once arranged in position, they will keep their colour and shape all year round.

How to hang your dried Hop Bine

The hop bine has been air-dried in our specialist kilns to hold its colour and then boxed for protection while in transit. The hops need to be fully dry in order to retain their quality during storage so the flowers may seem brittle on arrival. We recommend that you open the box and leave it somewhere damp overnight- not outside, but in the garage or shed, perhaps – so that it can absorb atmospheric moisture to soften it and make it less fragile to handle.

In the summer months when there is little moisture in the air (or when you don't have time to condition overnight) we recommend you use a fine water mist spray to dampen the hops. Once the leaves and flowers feel raggy, rather than brittle, the hop can then be carefully straightened out and hung in its final decorative position. The stems may snap a little, but the bine will be securely held together by the central string along its length.

Hop bines must be handled carefully as damaged flowers can stain fabrics and carpets. We recommend you use a dust sheet when hanging them.

To retain their green colour as long as possible, hops should ideally be hung out of direct sunlight.

Hops for long-term decoration should always be hung where they will not be knocked or damaged. Over time, and with exposure to bright light, they will gradually fade in colour.

Storage

If the bine needs to be stored for a while before hanging, ensure that it is somewhere dry and dark – storage in a damp location may result in mould developing inside the box or deterioration in colour.

Any questions?

Please call or email our friendly team on 01959 523219.