

Castle FARM

KENT, 1892

Thank you for purchasing a fresh 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 – somewhere dry with good air-circulation – they will air-dry naturally – the flowers will open, and the leaves will curl, they will keep their colour and shape all year round.

Unpack your fresh Hop Bine immediately

We hope that your hops have arrived in good condition. Please remove them from their packaging immediately so that air can circulate through them. Due to the nature of the product and the dampness in the hop, it is not unusual for the boxes to look squashed on delivery. This does not affect the quality of the hops however.

How to hang your fresh Hop Bine

We recommend that you wear long sleeves and gloves when handling the fresh hops and take care to prevent the roughness of the leaves and stems from scratching your skin.

A hop bine should either be hung immediately in its final decorative position, so that it can start drying naturally, or be draped in a dry dark location for a couple of days to allow any tiny insects to disperse (especially if the bine is to be hung over an area of food preparation or consumption). Because they are grown outdoors, hops always harbour some small insects or aphids hiding within the flowers or under the leaves. Aphids can start to emerge about 24 hours after the bine is cut, during the first few days of drying. Please inspect the bine carefully when it is unpacked – the aphids are tiny, green and wingless and are visible against the dark brown stems. If present, leave the bine in a dry dark shed or garage for a few days and the aphids will quickly die off and disappear.

Hop flowers contain a yellow, pollen-like substance that can cause staining. It is a good idea to use dustsheets while the hops are being handled to prevent damage to carpets, upholstery or other furnishings. The distinctive aroma of the hops is evident while the hops are drying.

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

Any questions? Please call or email our friendly team on 01959 523219.