

Poker Seeds

Season: Perennial

Zone: 7-10

Sunlight: Full Sun to Shade, full Sun

Bloom Season: Summer through autumn

Environment: Full sun

Soil Type: Moist, well-drained, pH 5.8 - 7.0

Temperature: 70 - 75F

Light Required: Yes

Depth: Cover seed lightly with peat moss

Moisture: Keep seeds moist until germination

Plant Spacing: 18 - 24 inches

Description

Red hot poker plants are truly aptly named with their orange, red and yellow flower spikes that look like blazing torches. These South African natives are popular ornamental perennials which crave sun and attract Butterflies and Hummingbirds while being deer resistant. Red hot poker plants are easy to grow in well-draining soil.

Growing Torch Lily Plants From Seeds

Torch lily seeds will require full sun, well-draining soil and plenty of organic matter.

Before sowing, give them a cold treatment for 4 weeks.

Place seeds in a baggie in the refrigerator for up to one month.

Once the seeds have chilled, they are ready to plant.

Sow seeds indoors 6 to 8 weeks before planting out.

Use a good potting mixture in pots which are several inches deep to preserve the taproot.

Sow 3 seeds in each container and lightly dust with soil.

Keep the containers where temperatures are 70 to 75 degrees Fahrenheit (21-23 C.) and evenly moist.

Expect germination in 21 to 28 days.

In warm regions, you can also direct sow the seeds in prepared garden beds.

When plants are small clumps several inches wide, transplant them to the flower bed after hardening them off.

Growing Red Hot Poker Seeds

With a little luck and good care, red hot poker seed propagation should be successful and you will have some mini-me torch lilies in pots.

It isn't a good idea to continue to grow the plants in containers since they have a fairly long taproot.

Moving them to a garden space with full sun and porous soil is the best way to grow red hot pokers.

Expose indoor grown plants gradually to outside conditions over the course of a week to help them adjust and avoid shock.

Set the plants into the soil at the same level at which they were growing in the containers.

If you get them in the ground early enough, you should expect a bloom the first year.

Remove spent flower spikes as they occur and cut the foliage back in late winter to early spring to allow new leaves room to grow.

Provide mulch over the root zone in northern climates to protect the plant from cold.

Divide your pokers every few years to promote blooming and dense clumps.

These are very easy plants to grow and you can save seeds or even baby clumps to trade with your garden friends.