

Growing GUIDE



IXIA



**PLANTING
DEPTH**
4"



**WATER
QUANTITY**
Moderate



**SUN
QUANTITY**
Full Sun



**PLANTING
PROXIMITY**
1-4" Apart



**BLOOM
SEASON**
Spring through Summer



**HARDINESS
ZONES**
Zones 8-10

IXIA PLANTING GUIDE

Ixia, also known as Wand Lilies and African Corn Flowers, are easy-care plants ideal for the hot, dry climates of the southwest. As exotic members of the Iris family, these beauties produce brightly colored blossoms accented by contrasting center blotches from late spring to early summer. They're fantastic for cutting, drought-tolerant, and unbothered by pesky deer. Learn more about planting and growing ixia with this comprehensive guide!



SUCCESS TIPS

- Plant Ixia in groups along borders or in containers for the greatest visual impact.
- Amend the soil with finely ground bark, decomposed manure, or compost to improve drainage and encourage a healthy start.
- Feel free to plant shorter Oxalis with Ixia in the same container, as they make fabulous partners.
- Snip a few flower stems when in bloom for dashing bouquets. Cutting will not harm the plants, provided they are given a little fertilizer later in the season to help provide strength for future seasons.
- Encourage more and larger Ixia flowers by providing a little fertilizer in the fall.



WHERE TO PLANT

Provide your Wand Lilies with a spot in full sun where the soil drains well and they will be protected from high winds. If you notice puddles of water 5–6 hours after a hard rain, scout out another site or amend the soil with organic material to raise the level 2–3 inches. While these plants aren't particularly fussy about soil, they will not survive in soggy conditions or standing water.

WHEN TO PLANT

Ixia bulbs perform best when planted in early fall and watered immediately to spark growth. These bloomers require protection from frost in areas with harsher winters. Most bulbs will begin to grow roots in just a week or two, but you typically won't see activity above the soil until next spring.

HOW TO PLANT

- **For outdoor landscape planting**, find a spot where the soil drains well, and your Ixia plants will receive plenty of sunlight. Dig holes and plant the bulbs 4" below the soil surface and 4" apart, with the slightly pointed ends facing up.
- **For container planting**, start with good quality, well-draining potting soil, and appropriately sized containers with adequate drainage holes. Dig holes and plant the bulbs close together, about 1" apart and 4" deep, with the slightly pointed ends facing up. Place your containers where they will receive plenty of sunlight.
- **Water thoroughly**, soaking the soil to settle it around the bulbs.

HOW TO GROW

- **Water as needed** during active growth periods, with about 1" of moisture per week as a fair estimate.
- **Leave the foliage in place** after blooming has finished for the season. The leaves will gather sunlight to create food through photosynthesis, strengthening the bulb for the future.
- **Remove the dry foliage** when the leaves turn yellow and die back later in the season.
- **Allow the bulbs to rest** in dry conditions during their dormancy period.
- **Water just once** during the autumn with a water-soluble fertilizer to nourish the bulbs as they develop new roots and top growth.



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