

GROWING TIPS FOR PEONIES AS CUT FLOWERS

- Plant the roots horizontally and shallow (1-2 inches here in the PNW). Peonies need their cooling for flower production. Do not plant them next to a structure or concrete that could raise the soil temperature or shade out the plants.
- Leave enough room between the plants. Older established peonies can have 20 or more stems.
- Find a spot in your field where you can leave the peonies. Digging them up and moving them will at best lose you a year of growth and at worst lose you some of your production.
- Do not cut anything during their first growing season.
- A general cutting guide: cut 1 flower out of 4-5 stems, 2 flowers out of 6-7 stems, 3 flowers out of 8-9, and NO more than half of the flowering stems off of plants over 10 stems.
- Try to keep as much foliage on each plant. If you need a 24 inch stem, try to cut for that and leave the extra stem and leaves on the plant.
- Peonies for flower production should peak in years 7 through 15, but there have been fields left in for 20-25 years and they continue to produce at good levels.

