

# *How to Care for a* **FROSTPROOF GARDENIA Shrub**

## **Gardenia jasminoides ‘Frostproof’**

### **SELECT SITE:**

Light Requirements: Thrives in Full Sun ( at least 6+ hours per day of direct sunlight)  
Will tolerate a lightly shaded site

This shrub will grow larger to 5 ft. tall by 4 ft. wide; Space 2 ft. away from other plants or structures

Thrives in organically rich, slightly acidic, well drained soils.

Versatile Plant for:

Hedge or foundation planting. Place close to outdoor living areas or entryways to enjoy bloom fragrance. In groups to screen walls/fences. Container plantings.

Ideal USDA Plant Hardiness Zones: 7,8,9,10,11

### **PLANT PREP:**

Open box upon arrival, remove packing materials to let the plant “breathe”. Remove plastic bag, tape, and newspaper. Water well. There are drainage holes in the bottom of the pot so do this outside where the extra water will drain away.

### **HOLE PREP:**

Dig saucer shaped hole. The depth is determined by measuring the height of the roots from root flare to bottom. The width is 2-3 times the root ball diameter. Using these calculations, the ideal hole for the new bush will be approximately 10” tall by 24-30” wide.

### **PLANTING:**

**\*\*CAUTION\*\*** Handle with care when transplanting as Gardenia roots are best undisturbed **\*\*\***  
Place plant in hole and adjust for aesthetics. Hold in place while adding more soil, until the hole is completely filled. Push soil down until firm. Do not plant the shrub deeper than it has already been growing. Water well immediately after planting. Mulch evenly to a depth of 2-3 inches being sure to stay at least 4” away from its trunk.

### **FUTURE MAINTENANCE:**

Feed with an acidic fertilizer after blooms end, following package directions.

Water deeply & regularly; more frequent watering in extreme heat, especially during first year to ensure the growth of a mature root system. Keep roots cool with a thick layer of mulch.

Prune to shape or to remove dead/diseased branches in summer after flowering ceases.