

Special Information
About Your
TALL BEARDED
IRISES

*Thank you for your order.
Here's how to get the most enjoyment from the Tall Bearded Irises
you ordered from Breck's®.*

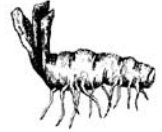
QUICK REFERENCE PLANTING GUIDE

1. Location—Full sun to partial shade (at least 5 hours of sun per day).
2. Planting Distance—12-24" (30-60 cm) apart.
3. Soil—Will do well in most well-drained garden soils.
4. Bloom Time—Late spring to early summer. Reblooms midsummer to frost.
5. Mature Height—24-40" (60-100 cm).
6. To Plant—Dig shallow holes 10" (25 cm) across and 2-4" (5-10 cm) deep. Make a ridge of soil down the middle of the hole, dividing it in half. Place iris rhizome on the ridge, spreading roots to both sides; cover with soil and firm with hands. In clay soil, the top of the rhizome should be slightly exposed. In sandy soil, it can be covered with just an inch of soil. Water thoroughly.
7. Hardiness—To -30°F (-34°C).

If you need additional information or planting instructions, please read on...

Tall Bearded Irises provide so much beauty with so little effort. They are easy to plant, require minimum care, yet multiply annually to provide increased beauty, year after year.

Your Tall Bearded Irises have been shipped to you as dormant rhizomes. (See illustration at right.) They will begin root development as soon as you plant them in your garden.



SOIL PREPARATION

Although tall bearded irises do well in most garden soils, for optimum results you can improve your soil as follows:

1. Spade or rototill the soil to a depth of 12-15" (30-40 cm).
2. Mix in a generous 2-4" (5-10 cm) layer of dehydrated manure, garden compost or peat moss, and Breck's Food for Bulbs and Perennials. (If soil is already rich garden loam and well drained, the addition of Breck's Food for Bulbs and Perennials will provide the ideal conditions recommended by Breck's Dutch bulb experts for superior growth and blooming.)

CONTINUING CARE

Irises require at least 1" (2.5 cm) of rain (or equivalent watering) each week. Feed in early spring before blooming and again after flowering is done. As flowers fade, cut stems back to the rhizomes. (NOTE: For reblooming Tall Bearded Irises, prompt removal of faded flowers and consistent watering is very important to aid in early fall repeat blooming.)

When fall comes, trim away all dead foliage. Trim all other foliage to 4-5" (10-13 cm) and clean the area around plants.

Apply a light blanket of leaves or other suitable mulch after the ground has frozen. Gardeners in Northern states should protect their irises every winter. If alternate freezing and thawing lifts your iris rhizomes, don't try to press them back into the soil. Instead, just bank soil around the rhizomes and exposed roots.

Irises can be divided every four to five years. August is the best time to do this. Older rhizomes, which have few white feeding roots, should be discarded. Be sure each rhizome you replant has one or two leaf fans. Replant as you did your new irises.

Your satisfaction is of primary concern to us. If you have any questions regarding your order, please contact our customer service representatives:

In the U.S.: You may call us 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at 513-354-1512.
Send mail to U.S. Reservation Centre, Breck's Customer Service, P.O. Box 65, Guilford, IN 47022-0065. Or e-mail us at: service@Brecks.com.

In Canada: You may call us 24 hours a day, 7 days a week at 800-644-5505.
Send mail to Canadian Order Processing Centre, Breck's Customer Service, 9353 Graham Road, West Lorne, Ontario N0L 2P0. Or e-mail us at: service@BrecksBulbs.ca.

CAUTION: *Not all plant material is edible. Though most plants are harmless, some contain toxic substances that can cause headaches, nausea, dizziness or other discomforts. As a general rule, only known food plants should be eaten. In case of ingestion, please contact your local poison control centre at once and advise them of the name of the plant ingested. Keep out of the reach of children.*

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U.S. Reservation Centre
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