

Dianthus chinensis F1 Diana

Life cycle	Annual
Family / Origin	Caryophyllaceae / Northern China
Popular uses	Outdoor containers, pot and pack, suitable for borders and beds
Mature plant height	20-25 cm (8-10")
Mature plant width	20-25 cm (8-10")
Pot size	Packs, 10-15cm (4-6") pots, quart or gallon pots
Plants per pot	1 for 10cm (4") pots or quarts 3 plants per 15cm (6") or gallon pots
Sun exposure	Sun or partial shade
Water requirements	Reduced, avoid wet conditions
Flowering time	Entire growing season
Media	A well-drained, porous media is best to prevent over watering pH 5.5-5.8 EC 1.0-1.5 (150-225 ppm N)
Growing temperature	Temperature for active growth 15°C (59°F) at night 16-18°C (61-64°F) at day time
Light	Increase total light energy to promote early flowering Extending day length is not necessary, but promotes bud set
Fertilizer needs	Balanced N:P:K fertilizer as needed Ammonium based fertilizers are not recommended, use calcium based fertilizers EC 1.8-2.2 (270-330 ppm N)
Crop time	14-16 weeks



Description

Early flowering, large flower size, compact plant habit and unmatched color range

Growth regulators

Dianthus responds to: Chlormequat (Cycocel) and Paclobutrazol (Bonzi)

Common diseases

Botrytis, Alternaria, Leaf Spot, Fusarium, Wilt

Common pests

Spider Mites, Thrips, Aphids and Whitefly

Pinching

No need, but a single pinch is recommended for a better branching. Crop time will be 1-2 weeks longer

Hardiness zone

N/A

Plug production

Seed forms	Raw and Pelleted
Seed count	1.100-1.250 seeds/gram (31.000-35.000 seeds/oz); varies by lot!
Recommended plug size	480-264
Seeds cell	1
Vermiculite cover	Light cover with vermiculite
Stage 1 Germination	Growing medium temperature 21-24°C (70-75°F) EC 0.5-1.0 (75-150 ppm N) Radicle emergence will take place in 2-4 days Keep media moist but do not overwater Light is not necessary for germination Dianthus is very sensitive to high salt levels in stage 1 and 2
Stage 2 Stem and cotyledon	Keep media moist, lower night temperature to 18°C (64°F) Under low light conditions supplementary lighting is advised to promote compact strong seedlings EC 0.5-1.0 (75-150 ppm N)
Stage 3 Growth and development	Moisture: reduce moisture levels and allow medium to dry between watering Do not allow plants to wilt Temperature: 18-20°C (64-68°F) Fertilization EC 1.2-1.5 (180-225 ppm N)
Stage 4 Ready for transplanting	Moisture: reduce moisture levels and allow medium to dry between watering Do not allow plants to wilt Temperature: 13-15°C (55-59°F) Fertilization: see stage 3
Plug crop time	5-6 weeks
Approximate finish time	9-10 weeks
Special tips	Ensure best light conditions, especially in the early season, and grow dry to restrict and harden growth. Transplant on time