**Flower Gardens**

**Tips for Growing Annuals**

*Wait until all danger of frost passes before planting warm-season annuals like impatiens, celosia, marigolds,*

*and zinnias and avoid planting when the ground is wet.*

* Loosen the roots with your fingers, especially if they are in a tight mass.
* Plant annuals in well-drained soil.
* For best results, mix a complete organic fertilizer into the soil, or if you’re planting in containers, use a potting mix. Because the growing season in the South is longer than in other parts of the country, fertilize regularly, following product directions.
* Water spring annuals as often as needed to help them develop strong roots, and remember that spring winds can dry out hanging baskets. In the garden, use a 2-4″ layer of mulch to help conserve moisture and prevent weeds from popping up.

**Here are some ideas to get you started.**

* Plant annuals by your front door for [curb appeal](https://www.southernliving.com/home/curb-appeal). Accent path entrances with a mass planting, or draw attention to a special place in the garden.
* Use annual plants to bridge the gap between perennial bloom cycles in borders.
* Try annuals in containers and hanging baskets to put color where you want it.

**Sun---Petunia, Marigold, Vinca, Gerber Daisy, Verbena, Zinnia, Cosmos**

**Celosia, Dusty miller, Moss rose (Portulaca)**

**Shade---impatiens, Begonia, Cyclamens, Coleus**