

# Bougainvilleas

Information Leaflet No. 74



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E-mail: info@aylettnurseries.co.uk Web: www.aylettnurseries.co.uk Bougainvilleas can be easily trained to the shape and size required. They can be grown as a standard, or bush in a hanging basket, as espaliers or pyramids or even up into the ceiling of a conservatory to provide shade, reducing the need for blinds.

#### **POSITION**

Keep the plant in good light, they will even thrive in full sun; a position such as a windowsill, porch or conservatory is ideal. They can be placed outside during summer.

# **WATER**

Give a good soak and then allow to dry a little between waterings in the summer. Water sparingly in the winter. We recommend that you use rain water.

# **FEEDING**

Feed every 7 days, while in active growth during spring and early summer. We recommend Vitax Vegetable & Leafy Plant Feed (301) to encouraging growth development first. Then change to Vitax Multi Purpose Feed (111) to enhance colour development of the bracts. Once bracts have coloured, change back to Vitax Vegetable & Leafy Plant Feed (301) to encourage the next young shoots that will go on to produce bracts. **N.B.** Do not feed the plant on dry roots. If the plant is due a feed and is overly dry, moisten today and feed tomorrow. DO NOT EXCEED DOSAGE. Vitax Vegetable & Leafy Plant Feed (301) and Vitax Multi Purpose Feed (111) are also suitable for a wide range of plants. An occasional feed of Epsom salts will help correct the effects of hard water (yellowing leaves).

#### **POTTING**

Keep your bougainvillea fairly pot bound, and do not re-pot plants until they have fully acclimatised to your conditions (2-3 weeks). When potting, support the root ball, place compost into position and water in to settle. DO NOT compress the roots. Re-pot using John Innes Ericaceous compost.

### **PRUNING**

Prune at the end of February to stimulate new growth. You can prune lightly after each flush of flower.

## **TEMPERATURE**

Keep your bougainvillea in a frost-free position during the winter. It can be stored at 2-3°C, but be aware that the plant will tend to become deciduous and lose its leaves under 10°C, but will leaf up again when it gets warmer. The plants can flower well during winter in temperatures above 10°C so long as the light is good enough.

This leaflet is available in alternative formats.

Please ask a member of staff or Tel: 01727 822255 Email: info@aylettnurseries.co.uk

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