

## QUICK REFERENCE PLANTING GUIDE

LIGHT/SUN EXPOSURE	Full sun.
USDA HARDINESS ZONES	4 to 9.
PLANT TYPE	Perennial.
PLANTING DISTANCE IN-GROUND	At least 6 inches apart.
CONTAINER SIZE	One plant per 6-inch or larger container.
MATURE HEIGHT / SPREAD	3 to 4 inches tall with a 6 to 8 inch spread.
BLOOM TIME	Midsummer.
TIME TO REACH MATURITY	12 to 24 months.
FACTS OF NOTE	Heat and drought tolerant. Great for containers. Fun and easy to grow.

## Thank you for your order!

Bold colors, unique textures, and whimsical flower spikes make Sempervivum an asset in any garden! Commonly known as Hens and Chicks, these hardy succulents thrive in poor, dry soil and handle frigid winter weather with ease. Hens and Chicks are perfect for decorative containers, xeriscaping or rock gardens, and can even be used to create living wreaths and centerpieces.

**Caution: Do not assume any plant is safe to eat. Only parts of plants expressly grown to be eaten should be considered edible. As with any product that is not food, care should be taken to make sure that small children and pets do not ingest any part of the plant that is not expressly grown to be eaten.**

Unless specifically stated, this product is intended for ornamental horticultural use only and is not intended for consumption or ingestion by humans or pets. Most plants are harmless, but some contain toxic substances which can cause adverse health effects. Furthermore, some individuals and some animals are sensitive or allergic to certain plants and precautions should be taken to limit or avoid physical contact with particular plants. Some plants have thorns or spines that can be painful if handled.

**In case of ingestion contact a poison control center immediately.  
1-800-222-1222**

## SEMPERVIVUM



*\*Image on cover is representative of the type of plant(s) in this offer and not necessarily indicative of actual size or color for the included variety.*

## OUT OF THE BOX

### SEMPERVIVUM

Your plants have been shipped to you in pots. We urge you to remove them from the shipping box and plant them as soon as possible. Should planting be delayed due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances, roll the plastic bag down around each plant and place them near a bright window or other sunny location. Keep them well-watered in their pots until permanently planted. Once planted, they begin setting roots and, as the weather warms, begin showing new growth. Please plant as soon as possible, provide reasonable care and be patient.



SHIPPED AS SHOWN

## SOIL PREPARATION

We recommend having your soil tested periodically by your local County Extension Office ([www.nifa.usda.gov/extension](http://www.nifa.usda.gov/extension) or by calling 1-800-333-4636). A soil test can determine if your soil needs any amendments to enhance the growth and performance of your plants.

Ideal garden soil is easy to dig in and drains well while still holding the nutrients and water vital to plant growth. To prepare a bed for in-ground planting, spade or till the soil to a depth of roughly 12-18 inches. Next, spread a 2-4 inch layer of organic matter such as compost, shredded leaves or peat moss over the soil and mix well.

## PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS (Continued)

Important: Always plant sempervivums in well-drained soil or in containers with drainage holes.

1. Remove and discard the clear plastic bag from around each plant.
2. Prepare the root ball for planting by gently disturbing the surface roots with your fingers, fork, or gardening tool and pruning any damaged roots. This will encourage the roots to begin growing outward into the new soil.
3. Dig a hole twice as deep and twice as wide as the plant's root ball. Partially backfill the hole with soil and place the plant into the hole. The top of the root ball should be level with the ground surrounding the hole. Refill the hole with soil, firming the soil around the plant with your fingers. Check to be sure the plant is not planted too deeply. If it is, raise the plant carefully and re-firm the soil.
4. Water thoroughly.

## CONTINUING CARE

### WEEDING

Keep the area around your plants free of weeds. Weeds compete with surrounding plants for food, water and light. Walk around the garden periodically and pull weeds, including the roots, as soon as you see them.

### PRUNING

Sempervivums are also known as "hens and chicks". Each central rosette (hen) produces new rosettes (chicks) throughout its life cycle. As it approaches the end of its life cycle, the hen will stop making chicks and begin producing a flower spike from the center of the plant. Each rosette flowers when it reaches full maturity, then dies.

Carefully remove the dead rosette after it has finished flowering. The new rosettes will quickly fill in the space and the cycle will continue. Remove chicks and replant them if they become over-crowded.

## CONTINUING CARE (Continued)

### WATERING

Adequate and consistent watering is essential during your plant's first year in the garden. Once established, sempervivums are very drought tolerant and require little watering.

Due to variable geographical and environmental conditions, a specific watering schedule is difficult to define. However, as a rule of thumb, you should not allow the soil or the original root ball to completely dry out. During the first summer, you may need to water as often as every few days in periods of drought and extreme summer heat. To determine if your plant needs water, dig a few inches into the soil next to the plant. If the soil is dry 2-3 inches below the surface, it is time to water.

If you plant in a container, allow the top half of soil to dry out moderately between waterings. Water thoroughly until the soil is well-saturated and excess water flows through the drainage holes at the bottom of the container. Never allow the plants to sit in a saucer of water. Pots may be kept in saucers after any excess water has drained from the pot.

### FEEDING

Feed your plants once every 2-3 weeks during the growing season with a water-soluble fertilizer. Discontinue feeding after September 1st so your plants can harden off for winter. Resume fertilizing when new growth appears in the spring.

### WINTERIZING

Sempervivums are incredibly hardy and do not require any special winter protection when planted in-ground.

In very cold areas, containerized plants can be brought into an unheated, protected area such as a garage or cellar before temperatures drop below freezing. Check soil moisture every 2-3 weeks and water as needed during winter.

In spring, containerized plants should be moved back out into the garden sunlight where they will begin to repeat their yearly garden performance.