

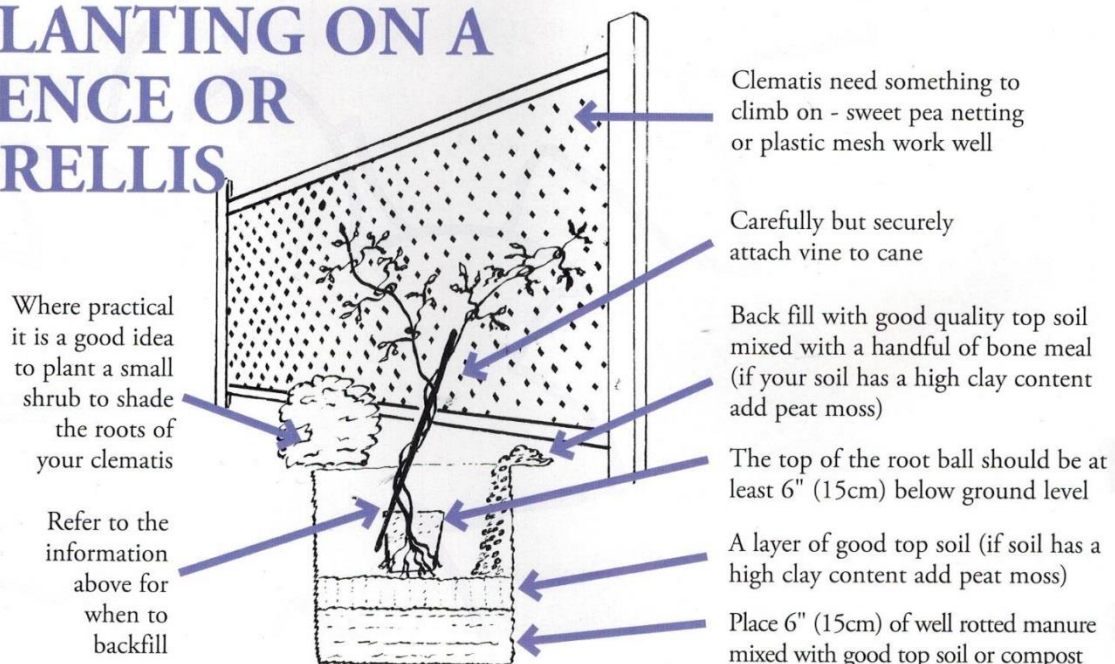


Planting Clematis

(From 'The Concise Guide to Clematis in North America')

- **Clematis need a cool, moist, well drained, deep root run, plenty of water and regular balanced feeding.** (We recommend **Gardner & Bloome Rose & Flower Fertilizer**)
- A little special preparation will ensure the proper environment. **Dig a hole eighteen inches deep by 18 inches wide.**
- Cover the bottom with a good **rich compost or well-rotted manure**. A handful of **bone meal** mixed with your soil is always a good idea. Add enough topsoil (we recommend a mix of **Soil Building Conditioner** and your native soil) to cover the compost. Now you are ready to plant!
- Place your **well-watered** clematis in the hole so that about **six inches of stem is below the soil line.**
- **The stem of your clematis needs to be ripe** (not green) before you bury it. If you are concerned about this, leave the final filling of the hole until later in the season.
- When the stem of the newly planted clematis has ripened, it needs to be **securely but carefully attached to a support** so that damage to the stem does not occur.
- Planting a small shrub in front will insure a **cool root run** for the clematis.

PLANTING ON A FENCE OR TRELLIS



(See backside for info on planting clematis in containers!)

Planting Clematis in Containers

- Most clematis will do well in containers although their **overall height may change due to the size of the container**. Special care must be given to choosing the right container, the right support, the right soil and of course the variety.
- An ideal size of container is (at least) **18" wide by 18" high by 18" deep**.
- In picking a container, metal or **any material that conducts heat should be avoided**.
- A potting soil with a high content of coarse peat moss will help retain moisture but also provide sufficient drainage. (We recommend **Blue Ribbon Blend** potting soil.)
- **Proper support is very important**. If you are going to grow your clematis against a wall, a **trellis** of some sort is required. In lieu of a trellis, **sweet pea netting** stapled to a fence or wall serves as an inexpensive and effective support. If you wish to have your container free standing, a **tripod of bamboo or cedar stakes** works very well.

The size of the container and the amount of growth on your clematis will be important factors in determining frequency of irrigation. If your container is large enough, annuals or a groundcover can be planted on the surface. Water well when the soil is dry. Overwatering can cause unwanted results including fungi, stunted growth or collapsed plants.

A tripod of strong canes or in this case a metal obelisk makes a good free standing support. Many different trellises work equally well.

Use a well drained potting soil that will provide a neutral ph and good aeration

Be sure to allow good drainage. Ensure that your container has several drainage holes punched in the bottom.

