

## Dianthus Interspecific F1 Elegance

<b>Life cycle</b>	Hardy perennial
<b>Family / Origin</b>	Caryophyllaceae
<b>Popular uses</b>	Outdoor containers, pot and pack, suitable for borders and beds
<b>Mature plant height</b>	45-60 cm (18-24")
<b>Mature plant width</b>	35-45 cm (14-18")
<b>Pot size</b>	Packs, 10-15cm (4-6") pots, quart or gallon pots
<b>Plants per pot</b>	1 for 10 cm (4") pots 1-3 plants in 15 cm (6")
<b>Sun exposure</b>	Sun or partial shade
<b>Water requirements</b>	Reduced, avoid wet conditions
<b>Flowering time</b>	Entire growing season
<b>Media</b>	A well-drained, porous media is best to prevent over watering pH 5.5-6.2 EC 0.5-1.4 (75-210 ppm N)
<b>Growing temperature</b>	For active growth 15°C (59°F) at night 16-18°C (61-64°F) at day time
<b>Light</b>	Increase total light energy to promote early flowering Extending day length is not necessary, but promotes bud set
<b>Fertilizer needs</b>	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)
<b>Crop time</b>	15-18 weeks
<b>Hardiness zone</b>	Z 5-10



### Description

A double flowered, first year flowering winter-hardy perennial, both heat and cold tolerant

### 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 is 1-2 weeks longer

## Plug Production

<b>Seed forms</b>	Raw
<b>Seed count</b>	1.000 seeds/gram (28.500 seeds/oz); varies by lot!
<b>Recommended plug size</b>	480-264
<b>Seeds cell</b>	1
<b>Vermiculite cover</b>	Light
<b>Stage 1 Germination</b>	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
<b>Stage 2 Stem and cotyledon</b>	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)
<b>Stage 3 Growth and development</b>	Moisture: reduce moisture levels and allow medium to dry between watering Do not allow plants to wilt Temperature 18-20°C (64-68°F) EC 1.2-1.5 (180-225 ppm N)
<b>Stage 4 Ready for transplanting</b>	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
<b>Plug crop time</b>	5-6 weeks
<b>Approximate finish time</b>	10-12 weeks
<b>Special tips</b>	Ensure best light conditions, especially in the early season, and grow dry to restrict and harden growth Transplant on time