

Bougainvillea Planting

Bougainvilleas are one of the most popular 'vines' in Southern California. Other vines pale in comparison with the vibrant color selections and massive bloom of Bougainvillea.

The weak spot of Bougainvillea is the very sensitive root system. Often times the root ball falls apart after removal from the original container. Great care must be taken to prevent this from happening as the plant does poorly and may even die if the root ball breaks.

To avoid root ball disasters in the transplanting process, we suggest you **do not remove the plant from the container**. Instead of taking the plant out of the pot, cut the bottom out of the container and leave the plant in the bottomless container. Prepare a rich mixture of soil for the bottom of the hole and gently set the plant on the soil mixture. **Do not remove the sides of the container!** Fill in the outside of the hole around the pot and water thoroughly. In the beginning, water often, usually every 3-4 days. Do not allow it to dry out.

The plastic container will remain there indefinitely and will cause no problems. If the top of the container shows too much above the soil, you can use a sharp knife or shears to cut off the visible portion.