

## Geranium

Geraniums have long been popular decorative plants for indoor and outdoor use. These are actually members of the genus *Pelargonium* and are usually grown as annuals since they do not overwinter outdoors in Wisconsin. (Members of the genus *Geranium*, called “hardy geraniums” or cranesbills are winter hardy garden perennials). There are many forms, types and species available, with great variation in leaf and growth characteristics, and with red, pink, orange or white flowers.



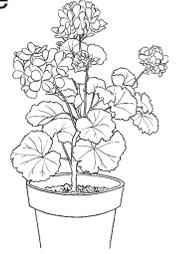
When purchasing geranium plants, look for sturdy plants with good leaf color and a bushy habit instead of a single, top-heavy stem. Plant outdoors after all danger of frost is past. Geraniums do best with 6-8 hours of sunlight per day and can be grown in the ground or in containers. Keep the soil evenly moist but not wet.

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## Additional Resources

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- UW-Extension Publication A2559, *Geranium Disorder: Bacterial Stem Rot and Leaf Spot*, at <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/Geranium-Disorder-Bacterial-Stem-Rot-and-Leaf-Spot-P393.aspx>

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