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Comments made below are personal opinion only. These comments are NOT made by, backed by, or guaranteed by AACCS or greenhouse supplier. They are intended only to give a general idea regarding general plant information not specific to ones bought through flower sale.

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### Ageratum

Comment: Ideal for beds. Mixes well with geraniums. Supposedly more deer resistant. A good flower to dry.  
Height: 6" – 8"  
Light: Full Sun/Part Shade

### Alyssum

Comment: Ideal for a rock garden, border, walkway, or window box. Have small white, purple, or pink flowers that bloom in summer.  
Height: Nice ground cover, approx. 4"  
Light: Full Sun/Part shade

### Begonia

Karen Favorite: Beautiful in all its combinations (dark leaf/green leaf and red/pink flower). I find to be extremely hardy (I can't seem to kill it J) & grows well. Ideal for any garden (I have even potted).  
Height: approx. 10"  
Light: Sun

### Coleus

Comment: Grown for lovely foliage not flowers. Nice in beds, borders. Grows well in shade.  
Height: approx. 15"  
Light: Sun, Part Shade, Shade

### Dwarf Dahlia

Karen comment: A classic, beautiful flower. My Great-Grandma's favorite. I have found it really needs full sun (you can't fudge on this one). Last year I had excellent luck with planting in large pot. Although this is an annual, you can dig up and plant following year.  
Height: approx. 8"  
Light: Full Sun

### Dusty Miller

Comment: Grown for lacy silver-gray foliage. Nice contrast plant for borders and pots. Supposedly deer resistant.  
Height: approx. 7"  
Light: Sun

### Impatiens

Karen Favorite: I have found to be very easily grown, lovely colors and supposedly more resistant to deer (however, if deer are hungry they'll eat anything J). They provide a nice carpet of color. I have enjoyed in pots on my front porch.  
Height: approx. 15"  
Light: Part Shade/Shade

### Marigolds

Karen Comment: I find very hardy and easily grown. I place around my garden to help control bugs/animals and find very resistant to the hot summer sun. I have read that you can cut in the morning for a bright flower arrangement placed in warm water (very cute in Mason Jar). Can also cut when flower peaks, remove leaves from stem, hang upside down, and dry.  
Height: 8" – 10"  
Light: Full Sun

### Pansies

Comment: Beginner gardener friendly, easy to grow with minimum care. Good bedding plants.  
Height: approx. 6"  
Light: Sun/Part Shade (Pansies don't like extreme heat so either remember to water regularly in extreme heat or plant in location where in the afternoon, at heat of the day, doesn't receive direct light.)

### Petunias (3 Types)

Comment: One of the most popular annuals that flower. Fragrant, easy, and work in beds and containers. Heat tolerant.

Height: Varies  
Light: Full Sun

**Petunias:** Has beautiful bloom (shape reminds me of a shape of a phonograph).

**Double Petunias:** Has full bloom (shape reminds me of something similar to a marigold). These work wonderfully in containers.

**Wave Petunia:** Has trailing shape (bloom is wavy). It is nice for container gardening/ground cover. (Don't need to remove spent blooms.)

### Moss Rose

Comment: Very versatile. Can use in borders, rock gardens, edging, ground cover, containers/hanging baskets. Has needle like foliage which helps plant be drought tolerant.

Height: Low – approx. 6"  
Light: Full Sun

### Salvia

Comments: Mixes well with annuals and perennials. Supposedly more deer resistant. Mine last year were gorgeous, huge, and easy to grow.  
Height: Mine were fairly tall. I am guessing approximately 12" – 15". (I have a picture at school).  
Light: Sun/Part Shade

### Viola

Comment: Nice in rock gardens, beds, and containers. Does not tolerate drought. Keep-up on your watering.  
Height: approximately 8"  
Light: Part Shade

## **Hanging Basket/Patio Pot Care**

Obviously there is not as much soil in a container vs. the ground so you will probably have to water every few days. However, when you have hot, sunny, days you will need to water more. If choosing to fertilize, you will want to use a light mix more frequently because the fertilized water washes out the bottom of the container. Most likely your container plant will need some sort of additional nutrition given to it. If chemicals make you uncomfortable, try a liquid fish emulsion.

**Annuals, we sell, that work in containers:**

- Alyssum
- Begonias
- Coleus
- Geraniums
- Impatiens
- Marigolds
- Pansies
- Petunias
- Salvia

## **Have Fun!**

When looking at planning what flowers to order to support AACCS, have fun! Think of warm weather, think of spending time playing outside and spending time with your kids. (What could be more fun for a kid than playing outside digging in dirt, water, and mud?) Take a few minutes to think about what you want around your house this summer. Things to think about:

1. Be honest with yourself and think about what it is you are looking to achieve. Often for me it is: what is easy, that I can't kill. I would rather admit that and get flowers that are low maintenance and hardy. (Thankfully, the flowers that we sell are easy and hardy.)
2. What colors look nice around your home?
3. Where are you going to plant flowers? Is it shady, sunny, or both.
4. Most importantly – have fun. What is wonderful about annuals is that you can change your colors every year. So play around with it - be inventive! Whether it is a theme color or rainbow garden, have your garden fit you and your personality. Some examples to try:
  - Red garden
  - Pink garden
  - Pink/White garden
  - Purple/Blue Garden
  - Patriotic Garden (Red/White/Blue)
  - Warm Toned Garden (Red/Orange/Yellow)
  - Cool Toned Garden (Blue/Purples/Greens)
  - Combination Garden (all the colors)
5. Layer your garden as you go with smallest, mature plants at front and largest, mature plants to the back or middle depending on whether your garden will be seen from all sides/not.
6. A bed can be simple and still be absolutely beautiful. For example: imagine a bed along side a driveway only in red salvias – what a grand entrance!
7. Remember: a garden doesn't have to be huge.
8. Let your kids get involved. What a fun gift (that lasts all summer) to give your child a shovel, gloves, kneel pad, and let them plan and take care of their own garden!

## **Fun Gift Ideas:**

- Give a hanging pot or patio pot to mom, grandma, sister, etc. for Mother's Day, birthday, etc.
- Pot one annual (i.e. a Dahlia, Viola, Impatient, etc.) in a small painted pot with a ribbon tied around as a gift/inventive place tag for a party. (These would also make lovely, inexpensive birthday gifts, thank you gifts, or just because gifts.)
- Have a gardening party for you and your friends (or your child and friends). You can be outside and chat while planting a flower in a container to take home!

## **Karen Helpful Hints:**

I don't have a lot of time to work with flowers. Often I have forgotten my flowers that grow around the front of the house because we always go through the garage - oops. Here are some things I have found over the years that have really helped out.

1. Remembering to remove spent blooms help most flowers grow.
2. Using a 3 month annual flower fertilizer to sprinkle and mix into dirt around annuals. (Then I don't have to worry about fertilizing the soil.)
3. Keeping up on weeding is best and can be fun family time! The kids and I when we come in from playing, take 5 minutes to pull out a few weeds, deadhead a few flowers, water if necessary and in the process get wet, messy and have a ton of fun.
4. Cover flowers during frost alerts.