

## Giant Cascading Begonias

Create colourful hanging basket displays this summer

**BUY 18 FOR HALF PRICE**

**A** **B** **C** **D** **E** **F**

**Top size 5cm+ diameter tubers supplied**

**Half-Price Trailing Begonias**  
Premium 5cm+ tubers supplied as illustrated.  
Free delivery within 14 days.

**A. 3 Begonia Apricot Shades £6.65**  
**B. 3 Begonia White £6.65**  
**C. 3 Begonia Pink £6.65**  
**D. 3 Begonia Orange £6.65**  
**E. 3 Begonia Yellow £6.65**  
**F. 3 Begonia Scarlet £6.65**

**18 Giant Double Cascading Begonia Collection - Buy 3 each of A-F for just £19.95, Half Price.**

Giant-flowering Begonias produce fully double flowers that are at least 100% larger than the standard cascading Begonias, they also have a more vigorous growing and flowering habit and will produce an avalanche of colour throughout summer. Tubers can easily be kept over winter and used for many years. Try three tubers in a basket or six in a large patio container for a sensational display.

Call **0843 922 5000** (calls cost 7p/min) (quoting SM33491) or visit **MirrorGardenOffers.co.uk**  
Call our UK-based sales team or visit our website now for hundreds of great offers

**ALTERNATIVELY COMPLETE THE COUPON IN BLOCK CAPITALS AND SEND IT TO:**  
Mirror Cascading Begonia Offer (SM33491), PO Box 64, South West District Office, Manchester, M16 9HY

TITLE <input type="checkbox"/> INITIAL <input type="checkbox"/> SURNAME <input type="checkbox"/>	PLEASE SEND ME		QTY	PRICE	TOTAL
ADDRESS <input type="text"/>	A. 3 CASCADING BEGONIA APRICOT SHADES			£6.65	£
POST CODE <input type="text"/>	B. 3 CASCADING BEGONIA WHITE			£6.65	£
DOB <input type="text"/> EMAIL <input type="text"/>	C. 3 CASCADING BEGONIA PINK			£6.65	£
TEL NO (for queries only) <input type="text"/>	D. 3 CASCADING BEGONIA ORANGE			£6.65	£
NAME ON CARD <input type="text"/> SIGNATURE <input type="text"/>	E. 3 CASCADING BEGONIA YELLOW			£6.65	£
	F. 3 CASCADING BEGONIA SCARLET			£6.65	£
	18 GIANT DOUBLE CASCADING BEGONIA COLLECTION-HALF PRICE			£19.95	£
					£
					£

I enclose a cheque/PO for the amount of £  made payable to MGN SM33491 (name and address on the back please) or debit my credit/debit card for the sum of £

CARD NO.  MAESTRO 16+ NOS

VALID / /  EXPIRY / /  MAESTRO ISSUE NO.

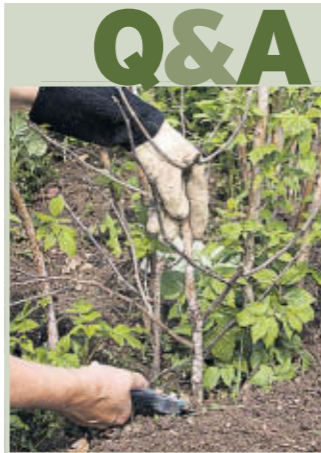
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# Gardening club

with DAVID DOMONEY

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## Q&A

### Dead plant blows me a raspberry

I bought some raspberry plants from a supermarket last year that were marked down. I soon realised they were almost dead and ended up pruning them in autumn. Could they come back? Bill via email

**DAVID: There is always a chance you may see a couple of shoots come up, fingers crossed, but even then they may not fruit this year. It may be worth cutting your losses and paying for better plants at your local garden centre if you can.**



### Best time to grow my own trumpet

When is the best time to plant a trumpet vine? Jill, Liverpool

**DAVID: Spring is the best time as it gives the plant all summer to get established. It will need a warm sunny wall that is sheltered from cold winds to survive in Britain, and it will appreciate a good mulching in the winter too.**

## TIP of the week

Save some of the plastic from your growbags and give it a second life as lining for your hanging baskets.

**GET IN TOUCH**  
For loads more hints and tips on gardening visit [daviddomoney.com](http://daviddomoney.com) or follow me on Facebook at @DavidDomoneyTV or on Twitter @daviddomoney

You don't need a farm, or even a vast garden, to grow your own fruit and veg... rip open a growbag and you'll soon be able to pick your fave

When they were introduced in the Seventies, growbags were a revolution. They were designed to be used under glass as an alternative to planting directly into greenhouse soil. This was largely because people who grew tomatoes were fed up with having to replace their soil every few years to avoid the build-up of root pests and disease.

Growbags were cheap, gave great crops, avoided soil-borne diseases and also provided flexibility because you could move them around and use space more effectively. It's no wonder they became so popular.

They are still superb choices for greenhouse growing, but these days they are used just as commonly in sunny spots outdoors by gardeners up and down the country.

They are also a dream for those who don't have much space and want to take advantage of a patio, path, or even an apartment balcony.

There are so many plants you can choose for your growbags, but they must be plants with shallow root structures. Tomatoes, cucumbers, sweet peppers, chilli peppers, aubergines and courgettes are all very popular choices.

Salad crops such as lettuce, spinach and rocket work well too.

You can even grow short-root crops such as radishes, baby beetroot and spring onions.

One of my favourite uses is to create an entire herb garden in one growbag and pop it right outside the kitchen door where you can reach it when cooking.

Before planting in your growbag there are a few things to do. Loosen up the compost inside by treating it like a pillow that needs fluffing. Shake it and knead it until



it feels loose and even. Next, pierce the bottom of the bag several times for drainage. The compost in grow bags is actually designed to cope well without drainage, but that is a dangerous game if you are using them outside where you can't control

# Bags of ideas

the rain. Some crops such as courgettes, kohlrabi, lettuce and rocket will do well with very wet compost, but for most crops I'd advise adding drainage. Growbags often have three pre-marked squares on top for you to cut out but if you are planting salad or herb crops you will just want to cut one long rectangle.

Taller, top-heavy crops like tomatoes will need to be staked in to ensure they don't topple over in strong winds. If

needed, you can buy support frames that sit over the top of growbags to attach the stakes to.

If you really hate the look of the plastic bag, you can even buy attractive growbag covers these days. Or save a few quid by using a bit of hessian cloth to cover them.

Remember, there is only a limited source of nutrients in one bag, so most crops will need regular top-ups of fertiliser. A general-purpose fertiliser

or a liquid tomato feed work great for most things.

I hate wastage, so there are a few things I do to get the most out of my grow bags. If you are growing larger crops in your bags, you often have time for a quick salad crop in the same bag after you have harvested your main plants, provided you add some liquid fertiliser.

When you have truly finished with a bag, you can either add the soil to

your compost heap, apply it as a mulch or soil conditioner in your borders, or even sprinkle it over your lawn as a top dressing.

Growbags were created for a simple and singular purpose, but their uses in the garden are now manifold. And, as with many things in the garden, with some creative thinking we can ensure we get the most out of our resources.

So get out there and do some great growbag growing.



CLASS ACT St Oswald's girls pull out weeds

## Get kids to

Entries are already flooding in for Cultivation Street 2018. Our brilliant gardening campaign has given away tens of thousands of pounds worth of prizes since 2012. And this year, with our new sponsor, Calliope® Flowers, we have another £20,500 up for grabs.

So if you are involved in a school or community gardening scheme, do enter your project for a chance of a prize. I believe

## dig deep and get a taste for outdoors

gardening can bring people together, improve urban environments and encourage exercise and healthy eating.

Plus, well-tended front gardens of community schemes brighten everyone's day.

One of the key categories is School Garden of the Year for the school that has created an enriching garden environment that involves the kids.

First prize is £2,500 plus 100 Calliope® plug plants. Second prize is

£1,500 plus 100 plug plants; third place is £1,000 plus 100 plug plants; four runners-up will receive £500 and 100 Calliope® plug plants each.

Vying for the prize is St Oswald's ALN Secondary in Glasgow. Teacher Bernadette Sweeney said: "Pupils

have been motivated and engaged. They can now make the link between what they are growing and what they can cook in class from the produce.

"It has been a catalyst for growth, increasing parental engagement and partnership with our local community, and it has helped some of our less academically engaged pupils."

Follow Cultivation Street on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram - or go to [cultivationstreet.com](http://cultivationstreet.com) for more.



KEY CATEGORY Pupil at St Oswald's rakes up

## OFFER of the week

Tomato 'Tumbling Tom Red' is a great variety for when space is at a premium. This compact variety has a trailing habit that makes it ideal for hanging baskets and patio tubs. Large cherry-sized fruit produced throughout the summer. 3cm jumbo plug plants supplied. Delivery within 28 days.

You can buy six Tomato 'Tumbling Tom Red' for £10.99 or buy 12 for £19.98 saving £2.

To order by debit/credit card call **0843 922 5000** quoting **SM33494** or send a cheque made payable to **MGN SM33494** to Tomato Offer (**SM33494**), PO Box 64, South West District Office, Manchester, M16 9HY or visit [mirrorgardenoffers.co.uk](http://mirrorgardenoffers.co.uk).



## GADGET



This pew with a view will give garden a lift

This beautiful Hartman Amalfi Comfort bench will make your garden even more welcoming this summer.

If your outdoor furniture is getting a bit tatty, now is a great time to replace it so you're all ready when the warm weather arrives.

This bench - in cast aluminium so it won't rust - comes with a deep, weather-proof cushion that can be left outside all summer. It's durable and lightweight and will form the centrepiece of your garden.

I found it for £293.25 from [gardenfurnitureworld.co.uk](http://gardenfurnitureworld.co.uk) or visit [hartmanuk.com](http://hartmanuk.com) for the full range.