

Gardenia Crown Jewel

A highly fragrant shrub that's ideal for growing in pots on the patio



Heavenly Fragrant Shrub

Gardenia jasminoides 'Crown Jewel' is a sensational new dwarf hardy evergreen shrub which produces heavily scented flowers. The double, star shaped flowers bloom from early summer to autumn amongst a glossy forest green leaves a creates dramatic dispaly. Ideal for growing in patio containers or in your borders, this compact shrub is easily managed, growing to only 60cm tall,

with a spread of 100-120cm. Flowers June to October. Top-quality 9cm pot plants supplied.

Free delivery within 14 days.

You can buy one for only £13.99 or order two for just £19.98 and SAVE £8.00.

Call **0843 922 5000** (quoting SM34656) or visit **MirrorGardenOffers.co.uk**

ALTERNATIVELY COMPLETE THE COUPON IN BLOCK CAPITALS AND SEND IT TO:
Mirror Gardenia Crown Jewel SM34656, PO Box 64, South West District Office, Manchester, M16 9HY

TITLE <input type="text"/>	INITIAL <input type="text"/>	SURNAME <input type="text"/>
ADDRESS <input type="text"/>		
POST CODE <input type="text"/>		
DOB <input type="text"/>	EMAIL <input type="text"/>	
TEL. NO for queries only <input type="text"/>		
NAME ON CARD <input type="text"/>		SIGNATURE <input type="text"/>

PLEASE SEND ME	QTY	PRICE	TOTAL
GARDENIA CROWN JEWEL		£39.99	£
2 GARDENIA CROWN JEWEL - SAME QTY		£79.98	£
	PHP	FREE	
	TOTAL	£	

I enclose a cheque/PO for the amount of £: made payable to SM34656.
(name and address on the back please) or debit my credit/debit card for the sum of £:

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Alternatively send your order to: Mirror Gardenia Crown Jewel Offer SM34656 PO Box 64, South West District Office, Manchester, M16 9HY. Please include a cheque made payable to SM34656 NAME AND ADDRESS ON THE BACK PLEASE. Calls cost 12p per minute plus your phone company's access charge. These goods are sold and supplied by J. Parker Dutch Bulbs (Wholesale) Ltd, with whom you contract when you accept this offer.

Gardening club

with DAVID DOMONEY

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Don't miss a beet with your veg plot

» Have I left it too late to plant some beetroot?
Derrick via email
DAVID: Not at all. Sow beetroot now and you'll even be able to store it for winter. It requires fertile soil so make sure you dig in some garden compost before you plant and water during dry spells. Young leaves can also be lightly blanched or eaten raw in salads so nothing goes to waste. Harvest beets once they are the size of a golf ball.



Blight fright with a tomato source

» How can I protect my tomato plants from blight?
Eddie, Chepstow, Monmouthshire
DAVID: Blight is a fungal disease that affects tomato and potato plants. Warm, wet summers are the cause. Don't plant tomatoes where potatoes have grown and pick a sunny, well-ventilated spot. Water the soil not leaves, and remove lower leaves for air circulation. Feed with potassium and cut off and burn infected plant matter.

TIP of the week

Use the end of a broomstick to poke small indentations into the soil around new plants. This will help water get down to the roots, where they need it the most.

GET IN TOUCH
For loads more hints and tips on gardening visit daviddomoney.com or follow me on Facebook at @DavidDomoneyTV or on Twitter @daviddomoney

Join the rock fan club and add interest to your borders and pots with texture, shape and tough yet pretty alpine plants

Creating a rock garden is a simple way of adding a feature that can be a real talking point. And it can be whatever size you like – from going large in borders to a mini vision in containers. They are also a great solution for sloping or steep areas, where plants would otherwise struggle to take hold. Basically, a rockery is an elevated bed or border built using rocks with soil and plants growing between them. Once you have selected the site, you will need some large rocks to use as anchors. It is best to source rocks that are native to the area you live in, for example sandstone in central England or slate from Wales. Decorative aggregate suppliers will sell what you need but you can also check quarries and landscape dealers to see what is available. You will also need some weed or landscape fabric to lay underneath your rockery to prevent rocks from slipping down into the ground, improve drainage and suppress weeds. And you need pebbles or gravel and some alpine compost mix. You can usually buy alpine compost mix from garden centres or make your own by mixing together equal parts

Masses of pretty purple flowers among the neutral grey stone

topsoil, horticultural grit and leaf mould. To begin, mark out the area using pegs and string and then clear all weeds. Put down a layer of pebbles or gravel and then lay the weed fabric over the top. Next, pour on some of the alpine compost and arrange your large anchor stones, burying them down to one third underneath the soil and two thirds above. Place the rocks on different levels and facing in varying directions to add interest to your rock garden. When choosing plants for your rock garden, look for alpinines – they're hardy, low-maintenance plants that will thrive in this rocky climate. They are often drought tolerant too, which all helps to conserve water in the garden. Aubretia is a classic example of a creeping alpine plant that will bring masses of pretty purple flowers among the neutral grey of your rocks. Sedum, sometimes called stonewort, is also a great choice, with its unusual succulent leaves and clusters of flowers that come in a variety of colours. Or you could try gentiana verna for



a carpet of blue flowers or saxifrage for lots of lovely greenery and colourful summery blooms. Anacyclus, alpine campanula, creeping thyme and dianthus are more options of alpinines that would work well in a rock garden. Once you

have selected your plants and got them home, arrange them around the rocks in their pots to see what they look like before planting. That way, you can adjust without having to dig them up if you don't immediately like their placing. Don't worry if the rocks seem to stand out a lot at first – they will soon naturally gather moss and lichen for added colour and interest. Try to consider your plants' needs when you are deciding where they will



How to learn your A Bee Cs and pass the pollen test



BEE INSPIRED Kids at St Alban's

Judges are buzzing over this year's Cultivation Street. And there is still time to compete for your share of £20,500 in prizes by entering your school or community project. Julie Newman has been teaching at St Alban's CE Primary School in Hampshire for 20 years and is responsible for its outdoor learning - with a focus on bees. Miss Newman said: "We began gardening with wildlife in mind 10 years ago, running a small after-school club. "Now it has grown to be an important part of school life and is integrated into the curriculum. We love all wildlife but are especially fond of bees. Our pupils enjoy being outdoors, learning through gardening. With horticulture, we are more connected to nature and working together to make a difference benefits our social and mental wellbeing." A Pollinator Promise was started by pupils as part of its Heritage Lottery funded Polli:Nation Project, aimed at making schools greener. Youngsters have been inviting parents, teachers, the community and businesses to pledge to set aside a square metre plot or a pot for garden

pollinators. The pupils have even harvested seeds from their school garden to help participants get started. After efforts to sign up businesses, the school was awarded the Bees' Needs Champions Award by Defra Minister Lord Gardine. Miss Newman added: "Pollinator Promise has brought us many new learning opportunities and we are very grateful for all the support." If you are involved in a scheme, find details of categories, prizes and how to enter at cultivationstreet.com You can follow Cultivation Street, sponsored by Calliope, on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

OFFER of the week

Create a spectacular cascading display with this premium Begonia Apricot Shades, producing an avalanche of double and semi-double flowers throughout summer well into autumn. Plugs can be planted straight into baskets or containers. Height: 30cm. Trails: 45-50cm. Flowers from June to September. These are UK-grown Garden Ready Plug Plants supplied for instant results, grown from F1 seed, the best quality for exceptional plants. You can buy 30 Begonia Apricot Shades for £14.99 or order 60 for only £25.98. To order by debit/credit card call **0843 922 5000** quoting **SM34666** or send a cheque made payable to **SM34666** to Mirror Begonia Apricot Shades Offer (SM34666) PO Box 64, South West District Office, Manchester, M16 9HY or visit mirrorgardenoffers.co.uk

GADGET



Installing a water butt is a terrific way to make your garden more sustainable – and save you pounds on your water bill. I love this 150 litre beehive-style butt from Sankey. Connect it to a downpipe and you're ready to go. I found it for £49.99 at amazon.co.uk but the stand and filler kit will cost extra. You will be amazed just how quickly these fill up, even after a little rain. And your plants will enjoy the rainwater instead of the tap stuff.