

Half Price Patio Datura

These exotic 'Angel Trumpets' are perfect for the patio or conservatory



Unusual Trumpet Flowers
Fondly known as the Angel's Trumpet, Datura have become increasingly popular recently as a patio and conservatory feature plant. They produce large trumpet flowers up to 25cm long from July to September. Bring indoors over winter. Height 1.5m. 9cm pot plants supplied. Delivery within 14 days.

A. Datura Yellow £9.99
B. Datura Red £9.99
C. Datura Pastel Pink £9.99
D. Datura White £9.99

Four Datura Collection - You can buy one of each variety (A-D) for only £79.98 - HALF PRICE.

Call **0843 922 5000** (quoting SM33703) or visit **MirrorGardenOffers.co.uk**
Call our UK-based sales team or visit our website now for hundreds of great offers

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Mirror Patio Datura SM33703 PO Box 64, South West District Office, Manchester, M16 9HY

TITLE	INITIAL	SURNAME	PLEASE SEND ME	QTY	PRICE	TOTAL
ADDRESS			A. Datura Yellow		£9.99	£
POST CODE			B. Datura Red		£9.99	£
C. Datura Pastel Pink					£9.99	£
D. Datura White					£9.99	£
FOUR DUTURA COLLECTION - HALF PRICE					£79.98	£
NAME ON CARD			SIGNATURE		POP	FREE
I enclose a cheque/PO for the amount of £			made payable to MGN SM33703		(insert and address on the back please) or debit my credit/debit card for the sum of £	
CARD NO.	EXPIRY	MASTRO 16+ NOS				
VALID						

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Gardening club

with DAVID DOMONEY

Q&A



Bark with extra bite for borders

I am considering using wood chippings in my garden but I'm concerned about fertiliser. Can I spread it directly on to a wood-chipped area? Dan, Tonbridge, Kent
DAVID: It's best to prepare your ground by adding a little fertiliser and forking over the soil before you add bark chippings as a mulch. Over time, the chippings will break down and improve the soil structure themselves so you only need to apply a little extra fertiliser on top annually to boost your plants.



Trumpets falling silent over spring

I saw plenty of daffodils this year but for some reason mine didn't flower. Any ideas why that might be? - Daisy, via email
DAVID: The key to success with bulbs is feeding them. Always feed your daffs with a liquid or granular feed while they are in flower or at least when the leaves are up. Try not to cut the leaves back after flowering. This will help provide them with the energy they need to flower again.

TIP of the week

When planting roses, pop a banana or two in the hole - or lay a few banana skins on the soil surface - for a kick of extra potassium.

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

Hedgehogs are a gardener's friend and you can pay them back and help numbers spike with little acts of kindness outdoors

You have to love hedgehogs. Those prickly paws prey on slimy slugs, keeping them off your plants and veg without resorting to chemicals.

I've recently been appointed as a patron of the British Hedgehog Preservation Society, working to raise awareness of the decline in numbers.

With Hedgehog Awareness Week starting today, it's more important than ever to start supporting the gardener's friend.

Attracting and caring for hedgehogs in your garden will not only benefit plants but help to save this adorable species from becoming endangered.

Understanding these creatures is essential. They are very cute and can be inquisitive but they are not pets and must never be treated as such.

If you do see one in your garden, try not to disturb them and let them go about their business. If you suspect

Many have come out of hibernation now so they need a hand

one is injured or needs medical help, use gardening gloves to gently collect it and bring it indoors.

Place it in a cardboard box with a warm hot water bottle wrapped in an old towel, some fresh water and a little meat-based cat or dog food and another towel for the hedgehog to hide under. Keep it somewhere quiet and warm and call the British Hedgehog Preservation Society for advice and local contacts.

Signs of a hedgehog in distress include appearing to be sunbathing or lethargic or looking wobbly and as though they are drunk.

Hedgehogs sometimes come out during daylight hours - particularly at dawn and dusk on short summer nights - so this may not be a cause for concern, as long as they are scurrying about in the usual manner.

Many have recently come out of hibernation so it's the opportune time



HOG ROAST
Check for animals before you light fires

to give them a helping hand.

Leave out fresh water and cat or dog food for hungry hogs after a long winter sleep - some garden centres even sell hedgehog food. Never leave milk or bread as these can cause an upset stomach.

Plant wildflowers such as ox-eye

daisy and red campion, which attract caterpillars - a great source of grub.

Remember, hedgehogs are wild animals that like to roam freely over a wide area, so perfectly tamed gardens and impenetrable fences are offputting.

Leaving areas wild by creating log and leaf piles will be attractive, providing a hibernation or nesting spot, as well as a wealth of insects to feast on.

A hedgehog home is another great option and these can be bought online or from garden centres. Or make one yourself using bricks and old bits of

wood. Work with neighbours to make hedgehog highways between gardens by creating holes (roughly 5in) between fences or channels underneath.

This will allow any local hedgehogs to roam between gardens, giving them a higher chance of finding food, nesting sites and a mate. Hedgehogs can travel up to a mile each night.

There are several things in the garden that pose a serious threat to the animals. Ponds should be covered or have a gentle sloping edge to let them escape after a quick dip. Hedgehogs

can swim but drown if they cannot scramble out.

Always check any areas of long grass before strimming and mowing. A ready-built bonfire is very enticing to hedgehogs, who see it as a cosy home. So try to only build right before you are about to light it or thoroughly check before you do.

Finally, chemical pest control may seem like an effective way to kill slugs but it is also a very effective way to poison hedgehogs. Whether they eat

the pellets or ingest a slug that has already been poisoned, chemical pest killer is extremely bad news for hedgehogs.

Try to use organic methods such as beer traps. I find a great way to keep slug populations down is by attracting as many hedgehogs as possible.

The British Hedgehog Preservation Society has loads more information about looking after them and #hedgehogweek and can be found at britishhedgehogs.org.uk

OFFER of the week

Give hedgehogs a helping hand with this charming and practical hedgehog house from Garden Life.

Its handy features include a predator baffle guard to protect from foxes, badgers and other potential threats, and a waterproof, pitched felt roof to protect them from the elements.

Use the included hedgehog care guide to learn more about the species and how to protect and care for them.

Home assembly required. It is advisable that you treat the wood before assembling to extend its life.

The dimensions of the house are: L40 x W40 x H19cm. Priced at £29.99. Was 49.99 plus £4.95 p&p to buy our Garden Life Hedgehog House (G2579) call **0843 922 5001** quoting **83441**.



GADGET



Here's how to keep slugs and snails off plants without using pellets that can harm hedgehogs.

This non-toxic and self-adhesive copper tape creates a protective barrier around pots or containers to guard your plants.

Slugs and snails hate copper so should give them a miss. And it won't harm any other wildlife or pets in the process.

It costs £4.99 for a four metre roll, which should protect plenty of pots. Visit britishhedgehogs.org.uk

Putting our children at the centre

We are celebrating the incredible staff who inspire gardeners as part of our brilliant competition.

Lisa Bond, 34, is among those vying to be our Cultivation Street ambassador of the year.

Lisa, from Poundbury Gardens garden centre in Dorset, said: "I work with the community, sharing skills, knowledge and passion to encourage a new generation of gardeners."

"It is at the heart of what we do at Poundbury Gardens and we take great pleasure in our regular visits from

Damers First School, when the children come in to learn about plants. We also donate compost and plants to the school so they can put into practice what they learn with us and enjoy the satisfaction of watching seeds develop into plants.

"Gardening can have a hugely positive impact on mental health and this has led to another community initiative. A local GP surgery has secured an allotment for their patients to help reduce



creativity anyone can create a small growing space."

We have £20,500 as prizes in our Cultivation Street competition, sponsored by Calliope Flowers. Ambassador of the year wins £1,000, second prize wins £500, third, £300, and 12 runners-up each receive £100.

If you are involved in a school or community gardening scheme, find details on categories at cultivationstreet.com. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.



BUDDING STARS Lisa teaching schoolchildren