



This article covers how to care for a Vinca plant, how to grow and propagate, what Soil to use, Repotting, Pruning and how much Water, Sunlight and Fertilizer is needed. You will know the best and most recommended ways to care for your Vinca plant.

Vinca General Info

- **Native:** Europe, northwest Africa, southwest Asia
- **Genus:** Vinca
- **Scientific Name:** Vinca rosea
- **Common Names:** Periwinkle, Running Myrtle, Sadabahar, Rosea
-  **Family:** Apocynaceae
-  **Flowers:** fragrant pink, violet, blue, purple, or lavender flowers with 5 petals each.
-  **Leaf Colors:** Green
-  **Temperature:** 68°F (±2°F) to 82°F (20 C to 27 C)
-  **Growing season:** Summer
-  **Watering:** Do not overwater. Only when soil is dry.

- ☀️ **Light:** Bright direct light
- 🐛 **Pests:** aphids, thrips, spider mites, and white flies
- ☠️ **Toxicity:** Toxic to Dogs, Cats & Horses
- ☠️ **Allergen:** pollen is airborne and allergenic, IgE-mediated respiratory allergy
- 🍷 **Use:** Ornamental Houseplants, medicinal use
- **Propagation** 🌱 : by Seeds and cuttings.
- **Height** 📏 : 8 to 27.5 inch
- **Soil:** Well draining, slightly acidic soil.

How to water 💧

Do not over water: Only water when the soil goes completely dry.

When watering your plantName, remember the **2 D's**

1. **Drench:** Water until the pot starts to drain the water, and the soil is completely *drenched*.
2. **Drain:** Water should be completely *drained*

The best way to know when to water is to do the classic *finger test* where you stick your finger and see if 1-2 inches of the topsoil has dried out completely before giving it more water. If it's still moist, don't water it.

Just picking up the pot is also an easy way to know if it needs to be watered. It feels pretty lightweight and doesn't seem to have moisture in there, you can plan to water.

Pro Tip: Better to be on the side of under-watering than over-watering. Most of the plants can recover from severe under-watering but die if over-watered.

Sunlight Requirements ☀

Lots of indirect bright sunlight. In the harsh sun of summers, keep them under a shade.

Note: Make sure you don't keep the plant very close to the glass window, as it can intensify sun rays and burn the leaves. Too much direct sunlight will burn the leaves

Soil

1. **Garden soil** (30%) for nutrients.
2. **Sand** (30%) for good drainage of water. Use river sand or construction sand. Don't use beach or sea sand because it is high in sodium chloride (salt).
3. **Compost** (30%)
4. **Neem Cake powder** (10%) for preventing fungal growth.

- Pot should be well drained with multiple drainage **holes**. Water should not be withheld in the pot at all. Also, place some rocks in the pot first so they drain all the water well, without losing soil being drained from the holes.

Fertilizer

Use an organic fertilizer once a month. Do not over fertilize as they don't require a lot of fertilization.

Temperature and Humidity

- Ideal temperature is between 68°F (±2°F) to 82°F (**20 C to 27 C**).
- Vinca's prefer moderate moisture for the best growth.

Plant Care Problems

 Screenshot this PlantName troubleshooting table!

Problem	Reason	Solution
Yellow Leaves	Overwatering or Cold Weather	Move in a covered area if the weather is cold.
Leaves drooping	Underwatering	Water the plant from below the

		pot.
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How to revive an overwatered Periwinkle plant

If you have overwatered your Vinca, and the plant is still in the wet soil,

1. Remove the plant from the pot
2. Remove any rotted parts of the Plant from the roots
3. Repot into new dry soil

Pests & Diseases

Aphids, thrips, spider mites, and white flies. You can [easily get rid of these pests and diseases](#).

How to Propagate

Here you will learn how to transplant plantName from its Stem cuttings and using seeds. Propagation of Vinca is very easy.

There are 2 ways to propagate plantName plants:

Propagation by Seeds

1. Cut a seed pod and take the seeds out of it.
2. Place the seeds on the soil.

3. Add a ¼ inch fine layer of potting mix. Do not sow the seeds too deep.
4. Press it down lightly, firm the potting mix with the palm of your hand to create a smooth, even surface.
5. Mist the compose with a spray bottle to settle it. Spray the potting mix until it feels wet at a depth of 1 inch.
6. Place the container in a partial shade and keep the potting mix moist all the time while the vinca seeds germinate.
7. Seeds will germinate in 2-3 days

Propagation by Cutting

1. Cut a stem of the Vinca plant from the middle. Cut a stem just below a leaf node.
2. Cut 10-15 such cuttings.
3. Pot the cutting into the soil or water.

How fast does Vinca grow

If you are propagating Vinca using seeds, the seeds will germinate in 10-15 days. If you are propagating Vinca from cuttings in the water or soil, the roots start to form within 1-2 weeks.

Vinca can grow upto 8-27 inches (20-70cm) above the ground.

To promote growth in Vinca, you can use the *pinching & cutting back* technique which is basically to pinch and cut the top parts of the stem which in turn leads to a growth of 2 stems from that cut region.

Vinca and Cats / Dogs 🐾

[Vinca is toxic](#) to Cats, Dogs and Horses. Clinical Signs include Vomiting, diarrhea, low blood pressure, depression, tremors, seizures, coma, death.

Flowering 🌻

Summer is the time when Vinca flowers bloom. However, you will find flowers during the winter season too. That is why Vinca is considered an evergreen plant. Flowers are fragrant with 5 petals each.

Benefits of Vinca

Vinca is used for medical purposes:

- Lowering blood pressure
- Lowering blood sugar levels
- Treatments of cough, cold and sore throat
- Used to treat leukemia and various forms of cancer.

Types of Vinca plants

1. Vinca Major



Evergreen ornamental flowering plant

2. Vinca Minor



Evergreen ornamental flowering plant

3. Vinca Herbacea



How to buy a Vinca Plant

PlantName is so basic, you will find plantName plants from supermarkets to your [nearest nursery](#)

PDF Download

Download this Vinca Plant Care Guide in PDF so that you can easily refer to it offline - whenever you are in need for a reference.