



Lily of the Valley

Your Lily of the Valley (*Convallaria majalis*) will produce a living bouquet of fragrant white bells in about three to four weeks. Enjoy them indoors in a bright or sunny location and water moderately, not allowing the soil to dry out completely. These perennial flowers can be planted outdoors in the spring.

Care Upon Arrival

Open the box immediately to allow air exchange. If you cannot care for your plants for a day or two after arrival, place the open box in a cool, dark, non-freezing location.

Handle your plants very carefully so that you don't damage any tender new sprouts while removing the packing material. To make it easier to monitor soil moisture, we suggest removing any protective moss covering upon arrival. You may wish to leave a light layer of moss around the plants for decoration.

If the soil is dry when plants arrive, water the pot well to moisten the soil. Allow the pot to drain thoroughly so that the plants are not sitting in soggy soil.

Growing and Maintenance

Put the pot in a cool, brightly lit location place, ideally no more than 2' to 3' from a window or under bright artificial light. Temperatures between 60 to 65 degrees F are best. Plants grow more compactly and blooms last longer in cool temperatures. Plant growth may "stretch" in warmer temperatures and low light conditions.

As the plants grow, rotate the container every few days to prevent them from leaning toward the light. Keep the soil consistently moist, but not soggy. They will need more frequent watering as they grow.

Your potted Lily of the Valley plants will bloom in about three to four weeks. Once the plants begin to bloom, the floral display typically last one to two weeks. For longest bloom, keep the soil moist, move the pot out of direct sun and keep at 60 to 70 degrees F.

Planting in the Garden

Lily of the Valley may be planted in your garden, although it may take it at least two seasons to become established and produce flowers again. Grow them as houseplants until mid spring, when the soil can be worked and temperatures are above freezing. They grow best in a shady to part-sun location, such as the north or east side of a house or around trees and shrubs.

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