

# Planting Azaleas

## **Add some color to your shady areas**

Azaleas are bright and colorful and a sure sign spring has arrived. Easy to grow, azaleas make a colorful complement to any landscape.

## Choose Your Site

Azaleas prefer a little sun and a little shade. Plant them in blazing hot sun and they may suffer leaf scorch or become targets for leaf-sucking pests, such as spider mites and lace bugs. Plant them in dense shade and they won't bloom. A good location is where they receive either dappled sun all day or sun in the morning and light shade in the afternoon. Good places might include spots under trees, or along the north side of your house.

- Plant them in a sunny spot that gets a good amount of afternoon shade.
- When planting azaleas, fill the hole with a 50/50 blend of existing soil and garden soil.
- Once planted, gently tamp the soil and water thoroughly.
- Add a 3-inch layer of mulch, keeping it 1-2 inches away from the base of each plant.
- Water daily until plants are established.