



LANDSCAPE · NURSERY · GARDEN CENTER

## Indoor Plant Care CINERARIA

**Taxonomic Name:** *Pericallis x hybrida*

**Aster Family**

**Herbaceous Plant**

Of all the flowering houseplants grown to grace homes and greenhouses, none are more cheerful in their aspect than cinerarias. These plants are usually treated as annuals and are discarded once their blooming period is past. Nonetheless, their flower heads provide a spectacular color show for four to six weeks--especially if the plants are kept in cool conditions. Indeed, cinerarias do best before the onset of summer, and for that reason they are usually sold only in late winter and spring.

### ***How to Care for Your Plant:***

**LIGHT:** Direct sunlight (as provided by a southern or western window) is preferable.

**WATERING:** Wait till the soil surface is dry to the touch, then water the plant thoroughly. At least a little water should come out of the pot's bottom drainage holes. However, the plant should not stand in saucer water for more than thirty minutes.

**FEEDING:** Feed sparingly, and only when the plant is actively growing. Use an all purpose houseplant fertilizer at half the concentration and frequency listed in the product directions.

**POTENTIAL PROBLEMS:** Watch out for aphids. The small insect pests have a special liking for cinerarias. Spider mites may also attack. For advice on controlling pests and other problems, check with the Chalet greenhouse staff.