

Common name, variety and botanical name.

Zinnia Peppermint Stick *Zinnia elegans*

\$1.79
Net Weight
750 mg

Annual
Blooms summer to fall
2' - 3' tall
Full sun

Flowers as tantalizing as their namesake candy; no flower the same! Drought tolerant. Great cut flower.

Botanical Interests™

Critical information on the FRONT of the packet simplifies variety selection.

Vivid, detailed illustrations.

Interesting tidbits about the unique qualities of this variety.

Zinnia Peppermint Stick *Zinnia elegans*

Family: *Malvaceae* (Buttercup Family)

The inside of the packet contains growing and harvesting tips, recipes, history, avoiding diseases and pests, and much more.

From early summer through fall until first frost.

Exposure: Full sun.

Soil Requirements: Rich, deep, well drained soil. Mix a high phosphorous, low nitrogen fertilizer in with soil.

Water Requirements: Keep well watered but not soggy wet. Note: ALWAYS WATER BY SOAKING SOIL - DO NOT OVERHEAD WATER.

Special Care: Some gardeners suggest that tall flowering varieties such as Peppermint Stick be topped when young plants have produced 3 pairs of leaves. This will encourage basal branching and bushy plants.

When to Plant: Outside: RECOMMENDED. Late spring, 2 weeks AFTER average last frost. Zinnias do not gain from being planted early; they will just sit and wait for warmer weather. Inside: 6 weeks before last frost. Best, though, to seed outside in location you

FROST Your last day of frost...

The last day of frost (32 degrees or less) is defined as "the first day in spring on which there is less than a 50% chance a frost will occur." This information is crucial when planting a garden. To find out your last day of frost, call your local independent garden center or your county Cooperative Agricultural Extension Service. Also inquire about the average date of the first fall frost.

Other Comments: Named after Dr. Gossfried Zinn, a German who lived in the 18th century. His hobby was hybridizing wildflowers, and once when collecting plants in Mexico, he was approached by bandits. He had a large sack of dried flower heads. The bandits left him alone because they thought it was bad luck to attack "the feeble minded". Maybe that is what we gardeners are...

Quality You Can Grow With!

Since we garden with our own seed, we want only the best quality seed! Germination tests are performed on all our seed and we accept only the best quality available! If you have a problem with this seed, simply write us at the address on the back of our seed packet and we will be happy to help you out! Happy Gardening - Curtis Jones, President.

How to Dry Flowers with Silica Gel

Place 15" layer of silica gel in bottom of covered plastic box. Cut stem to one inch and push 3" medium weight floral wire up stem to stop at fleshy part of flower. Bend wire 90 degrees below stem. Set flower face up in drying medium. Working silica gel between petals, carefully cover flower with silica gel. Seal the box tightly and set aside for 3-7 days. Flowers are dry if they are crisp to the touch. To remove flowers, pour silica gel crystals off of them. When flowers are mostly uncovered, place fingers under head and carefully lift out. Shake off excess crystals. Store flowers in sealed box with wire stuck into 1/2" of Styrofoam. Place a small amount of silica gel in box (NOT soaking flowers) and seal box.

Making Cut Flowers Last Longer

There are simple techniques you can use to extend the life of your cut flowers from days to over a week!

- 1) Cut stems at a slant. Use a pair of sharp scissors, not blade and anvil pruning clippers.
- 2) Immediately after cutting, put stem in bucket of water.
- 3) When indoors, strip away foliage on stem that might be underwater in your display vase.
- 4) Recut stems UNDER water. Remember to cut stem at an angle again.
- 5) Immediately after recutting stems, transfer to vase. Water should be halfway up stems. Commercial preservatives work well and should be used. Some flowers rot quickly; replace water regularly.

Seedling



Date Seed Planted:

(Write in date)

Artist: Donna Clement of Longmont, Colorado is a graduate of the School of Visual Arts, NYC. Her work includes set design, scenic art, murals, paintings, and graphic arts. Donna is an advanced master gardener. Hobbies include scuba, motorcycling and Star Trek.

A little about each talented artist that illustrates our beautiful packets.

Cut out this informative plant tag and use it in your garden or in germination trays.

To Open: Peel back this flap. Peel back side and bottom flaps to find additional information on inside packet!

Cut plant tag along dotted line. Staple to stake such as poplite stick, etc. Use as row marker in garden or in transplant trays.

Zinnia
Peppermint Stick
Zinnia elegans

Days to Emergence:
3 - 6 days
Seed Depth:
1/4"
Seed Spacing:
2"
Thinning:
When 1" tall,
thin to 1" apart.

Artist:
Donna Clement

When Peppermint Stick started blooming in our test gardens, our neighbors said "WOW". A dramatic Zinnia — drought tolerant, excellent in containers, and a great dried or cut flower. Blooms last a long time before needing to be clipped off.

When to plant outside: Late spring 2 weeks AFTER average last frost. Zinnias do not gain from being planted early; they wait for warmer weather. Sow outside recommended.
When to start inside: 6 weeks before last frost. Best to start seeds outside.

"Tons" more information...
ON THE INSIDE OF OUR
PACKET!



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Even more interesting details about this variety!

Plan ahead — organize planting times with the "when to plant" information here.