



How to Care for a RED SISTER HAWAIIAN TI Shrub *Cordyline fruticosa 'Red Sister'*

SELECT SITE:

Light Requirements: Bright sunny site for best foliage color, although some afternoon shade is appreciated in hotter inland gardens

This shrub will grow larger to 4-6 ft. tall & wide; space 3 ft. away from other plants or structures.

Tolerates poor and dry soils; thrives in deep, fertile, well drained soils; shelter from harsh winds.

Versatile Plant For: Poolside. Foundation Plant. Colorful Hedge or Massing. Containers.

Only ideal for outdoor planting in USDA Plant Hardiness Zones: 9,10,11 :: Grow as an indoor houseplant in USDA Plant Hardiness Zones: 1-8

PLANT PREP: Open box upon arrival, remove packing materials to let the plant "breathe". Remove tape and newspaper. Water well. There are drainage holes in the bottom of the pot so do this outside where the extra water will drain away.

HOLE PREP: Dig saucer shaped hole. The depth is determined by measuring the height of the roots from root flare to bottom. The width is 2-3 times the root ball diameter. Using these calculations, the ideal hole for the new bush will be approximately 10" tall by 24-30" wide.

PLANTING: Place plant in hole and adjust for aesthetics. Hold in place while adding more soil, until the hole is completely filled. Push soil down until firm. Do not plant the shrub deeper than it has already been growing. Water well immediately after planting. Mulch evenly to a depth of 2-3 inches being sure to stay at least 4" away from its trunk. **For container planting:** The plant prefers a well-draining, rich potting mix. Re-plant every 3-4 years and replace the top surface of soil every year to ensure continual nutrition.

FUTURE MAINTENANCE:

When planted in ground

Application of a slow release general fertilizer can be done every 3 months, if desired. Water regularly and deeply during first growing season to develop root system. Once established, water regularly during growing season, then reduce frequency during cooler winter months. To prevent leaf disease, avoid overhead watering. Protect from freezing temperatures.

For container plantings

Feed every 3 months with a half-strength liquid fertilizer. The plant prefers moist well drained soil and needs regular watering, however it is best to let the soil dry out slightly in-between each watering to avoid the possibility of overwatering. Move indoors before the threat of frost.

For glossier & fresh foliage, provide some humidity. Pruning rarely needed, and wait until signs of new growth before cutting any frost-damaged stems.