

# Four O'Clock

Four O'Clock flowers, also known as Mirabilis, are vibrant, trumpet-shaped blooms that open in the late afternoon. They are a favourite of hummingbirds. Plants are short and bushy, growing about 30-60 cm (2-3') tall, so they would grow well in a 5 gallon container. They do not overwinter in Canada, so save seeds for next season!

**Type:** Annual

**Height:** 30-60 cm (2-3')

**Exposure:** Full sun

**Difficulty:** Easy



## Growing

Soak seeds in water overnight before direct sowing them outside once the threat of frost has passed. Sow seeds about 5 mm (1/4") deep and 15cm (6") apart. Keep the soil moist but not soaking wet. Seeds should germinate within a couple weeks, and flower between June to early fall. Four O'Clocks do not need to be deadheaded in order to keep them blooming.

## Saving

To save seeds, wait for flowers to dry and for the pods to turn hard and black. Gently pull these seeds off of the plant, and let them fully dry for about a week before storing them. Put the seeds into a dated and labelled envelope and return to Brock!