

# Chessington

## Care & Advice

### Rhododendrons

The rhododendron bush is an attractive, blooming specimen in many landscapes and is fairly low maintenance when planted properly. Growing rhododendron successfully requires the proper planting spot for the rhododendron bush



Unlike many blooming plants, rhododendron does not like full morning sun in winter and does best when planted in dappled shade on the north side of a building.

Growing rhododendrons are happiest in a location protected from the wind and not under eaves of a building.



### Planting

Plant the rhododendron bush in spring when danger of frost has passed. Plant the bush high in properly prepared soil, as soggy and waterlogged roots are the main cause of plant failure in the landscape.

Once properly located in the planting bed, water thoroughly and cover with an organic mulch which will break down to supply nutrients as it decomposes.

A pine bark covering applied at 2 inches (5 cm.) is thought to inhibit fungi that cause root rot. Proper mulching will decrease the need for future rhododendron care.

Growing healthy and long blooming rhododendrons starts with properly amended soil and planting in the correct location. These steps ensure minimal effort when caring for rhododendrons.

Once sited properly, the rhododendron needs only adequate watering, pruning, and deadheading of the flowers to encourage their abundant return.

This guide has been put together to give a brief outline of the care needed. If you require any further information, please ask our plant advisors who will be very happy to help.

