

Bare Root Divisions vs. Pots for Herbaceous Peonies

By

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Herbaceous peonies are a time investment. A typical three to five eye bare root division can take three years to produce mature flowers. Vigorous hybrid varieties can sometimes be the exception to the rule and reach target bloom in the second year after installation. **Bare roots** can be planted throughout the **fall** and into **early winter**.

Roots & Blooms offers **potted herbaceous peonies** each spring. We sell **two year plants** to insure a developed root ball for sound establishment. A huge drawback to using potted examples is **foliar wilt** due to lack of watering during **summer months**. Until these peonies can develop **new root systems** to support existing top growth, **adequate moisture** is a huge problem particularly working around **summer vacations**.

If gardeners are unable to care for their new **herbaceous peony** additions after spring installation, we strongly advise planting **bare root divisions** in the fall. Plants will only produce stems capable of support in the ground. Plants may need an **additional year** of growth to reach maturity, but the need for constant **soil moisture monitoring** is largely avoided. **Patience** is a virtue with bare root establishment. Once plants settle in to their new homes, springs of memorable bloom with little yearly maintenance can be expected. Make your next herbaceous peony purchase a bare root division, it will be worth the effort.