PLANT CARE

SERIES





BAMBOO

Bamboo is a great way to add movement, sound and height into your garden. We carry both running and clumping types of bamboo.

RUNNING BAMBOO

Running bamboo has a leptomorphous root system. They have elongated underground stems called rhizomes. Each year the rhizome system spreads out further away from the mother plant. They do this in order to absorb more water and nutrients. With running bamboo we recommend a bamboo barrier to be installed see our Installing Bamboo Barrier handout. Remove sections every 4 to 5 years so they do not blow out barrier. If done early in the spring removed section will survive for transplant.

CLUMPING BAMBOO

Clumping bamboo has a pachymorphous root system. An underground rhizome system that is short and tightly compact. It is not aggressive, so no barrier is required.

EXPOSURE

Sun to part shade, depending on variety.

PLANTING

We recommend Gardner & Bloom Soil Building Compost, Dr. Earth Starter Fertilizer and Bonide **Root n Grow.** See our **Planting Guide** for further detail.

STAKING

Your bamboo may need to be staked. This will help prevent the wind and other elements from blowing your bamboo over and damaging newly formed roots.

MULCHING

Apply 2 to 3 inches of Small Bark Nuggets or Soil Building Compost around your bamboo plant in the spring and then again in the fall.

FERTILIZING

Bamboo is in constant need of a good nutrient supply regimen. At the beginning of March, apply Dr. Earth Lawn Fertilizer and again in the early summer. (Bamboo is a giant grass.)

THINNING

Bamboo can as thin or as dense as desired. Once a cane is cut it will never again gain height. Each can attains it full height in one year.

- 1. Always keep a combination of old and new canes.
- 2. Never cut more than 30 percent of the plant.
- 3. Bamboo can be legged up or trimmed from the base. This helps to provide better air circulation and increase sunlight.
- 4. Clear cut or mow groundcover bamboo to the ground. at the end of February through the first of March. This will keep them more compact.

WATERING

Make sure to saturate the soil around the entire root area to allow the bamboo roots to spread out. Once established, water 1 to 2 inches per week, depending on your soil type.

CONTAINER GROWING

Most bamboo can be grown in containers. A thing to remember is that they are heavy drinkers and feeders, so make sure you get them on a good fertilization program and keep them watered.

CHECK LIST

- ☐ Bamboo Plant(s)
- ☐ Soil Building Compost
- ☐ Dr. Earth Starter Fertilizer
- **Bonide Root n Grow**
- Dr. Earth Lawn Fertilizer
- ☐ Barrier & Clamps
 - ☐ Stakes & Tree Ties