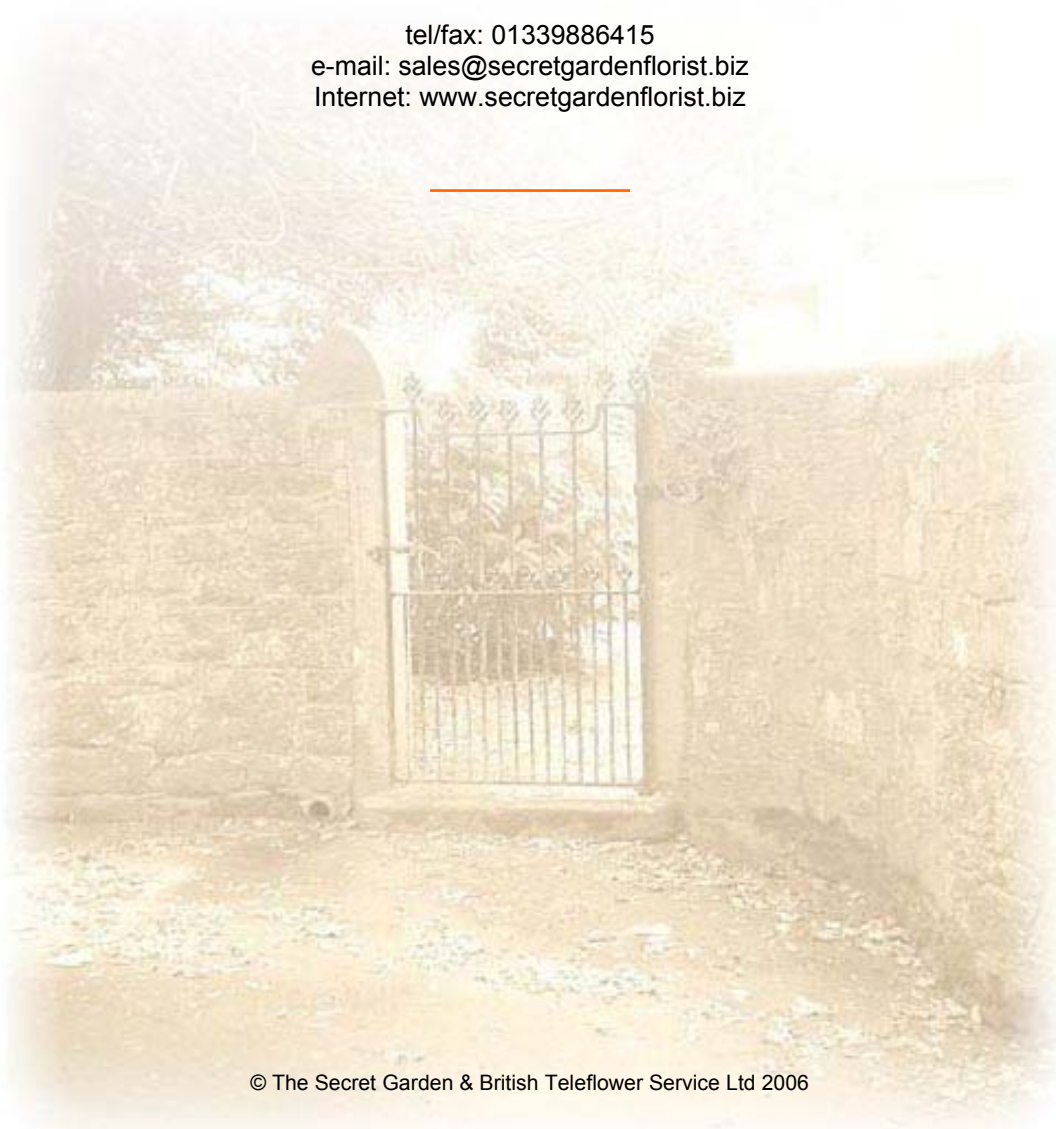


*The Secret Garden*  
*flowers for all occasions*

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*Caring for your*  
*flowers and plants*



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# Flowers

## Preparation

Remove all stem leaves that will sit below the vase water line. Cut the stem of each flower stems diagonally to remove 2-3cms from the end. This is best done with a knife to avoid crushing the stems although sharp scissors or secateurs can also be used. A diagonal cut provides a wider surface from which flowers can drink and cutting Whilst submerged in water will prevent air bubbles forming which can block the stem and prevent water being drawn up into the flowers.

**Note:** Hand Tied Bouquets - There is no need to untie these bouquets. Pierce the cellophane over sink and allow to drain. Place the flowers with the cellophane into a suitable vase of tepid water with the sachet of flower food added as above.

## Food

Ensure your vase is clean and add cut flower food to luke warm water, mixed according to the instructions on the packet. This food will increase the life of your flowers by up to several days. We can supply additional food or it can be purchased wherever flowers are sold.

## Display

Place your vase in a cool, draft-free location, away from direct sunlight and heat sources. However if you want the flowers to open up quickly then placing them in a warm room will speed this process up. Flowers should be kept away from ripening fruit and vegetables as the gas they emit can affect the flowers.

## Maintenance

Top up the water every 2-3 days, there is no need to replace it if you have used flower food. Stem cutting is also recommended every few days. Baskets & flowers arranged in foam dry out more quickly and should therefore be watered daily. Spray-mist the flowers too if you are able. Regularly remove any dead stems and transfer to a smaller vase as you get down to the last few flowers.



# Plants

Most plants enjoy the light but not direct sunlight although there are a few which require only shade. They also enjoy a consistent temperature - keep them away from draughts, cold and direct heat. All plants should receive regular feeding during the growing season, according to the recommended instructions. Never over water plants.

## Tropical and Foliage Plants

Generally require warmth and benefit from a light misting with a water spray once a week to create humidity and to clean the leaves. Compost should be kept moist during growing season, but never allowed to get waterlogged, as this causes rotting of the roots and stem. Allow the compost to dry out slightly between watering.

## Flowering plants

Need to be watered more regularly. During flowering you should water daily to keep the soil moist and feed every fortnight.

## Planted Bowls/Baskets

Should be kept at a constant temperature with good light. Keep them moist (without becoming water-logged) and feed once a fortnight in Spring/ Summer.

For information about how to best care for an ever growing range of specific flowers and plants why not visit the care section of our website:

[www.secretgardenflorist.biz](http://www.secretgardenflorist.biz)

