



G & K Carnations

Catalogue

It has been a very challenging last few years and I would like to believe that during these dark times we have found our love for nature again and even the smallest thing as even having a cup of tea whilst watching the birds has increased our sense of wellbeing.

We are eternally grateful to you our customers old and new who have purchased plants from us and helped us get through these past few years, we do hope that you have enjoyed growing the plants and from the feedback you have.

We did sell out of our Garden Pinks very quickly and that you enjoyed growing them, they are so adaptable and can be grown in any space whether it be in the garden, a patio pot or in a window box, given the right conditions they will flower continuously and with a scent that even a few cut stems will fill the house with a clove perfume.

Once again, we have been able to bring you some of the latest cultivars from home and Europe, many of which have not been shown before in this country. They are all vigorous, clean, healthy and virus free plants.

All the plants have been grown on by us and therefore they must not be confused with just rooted cuttings as all plants will have been grown on from cuttings into 7cm pots and well rooted prior to dispatch, they are then when ready dispatched via the Royal Mail and we will contact you on the day of dispatch.

We are making plans to be at many horticultural shows around the country where we will be putting on floral displays of our cut flower Carnations, where we have many of the varieties on display for sale.

So please enjoy the catalogue and once again many thanks for all your support.

Best wishes
Gill & Keith

Growing Perpetual Carnations.

For anyone starting out growing Perpetuals then below is a few useful tips that could assist you.

Growing Perpetual Carnations is not difficult, they can be grown in most composts, as potting composts are only a medium for the plant to anchor its roots, its through the roots that the plant is fed and watered, therefore the plant depends on you to look after its needs as its roots can not leave the pot to look after itself.

Its imperative that you should start with fresh potting compost, not from the garden or compost heap but one that is available in a bag, and nowadays there is such a wide variety of compost to choose from but for a beginner new to growing Carnations such choice can seem rather daunting. So, an idea of what is needed is a good idea before looking among the many piles of compost at Garden Centres and DIY Chains.

So what are we looking for in a compost when growing Carnations, well the compost mixture should be free draining and yet moisture retaining and is best made up of mainly loam, grit, sand, Perlite with added fertiliser, such as John Innes Composts which are excellent for growing Carnations and we would recommend John Innes No 3 as this is a loam based compost with added nutrients including lime. To this add Perlite, so that it is 25% Perlite mixed in with the compost. They prefer a pH around 6.5 just below neutral. This shows that they are very adaptable to any compost.

Perpetual Carnations will need stopping if they have not already been done so, this is the removal of the growing tip which once done will allow the flowering stems to form.

Over watering is the commonest cause of failure, so keeping the plants on the dry side especially in the early stages of growth, as the roots are very easily drowned.

When plants are in their final pots, which should be at least a 3-litre pot, use some form of hoop system with 3' canes to assist in keeping the plants upright and supported. Do not give any liquid feed for at least 4 weeks, this will make the plants roots search into the new compost for feed. Once feeding commences it would be best to start with a balanced feed, such as Chempak No 3.

During the summer months water them regularly to keep the soil just moist but not waterlogged.

Constantly monitor the plants for pests, a good magnifying glass is essential.

Spray a pesticide and fungicide on a regular basis, far better do so as a preventive rather than a cure, pesticide weekly and fungicide monthly.

Lower buds appear about two months after final potting, most growers dis-bud leaving only the crown bud to flower on each stem. Growers normally place an elastic band or similar around the crown bud to prevent the calyx from splitting when the flower expands. To dis-bud, hold the stem with one hand, and pull the bud and its stalk sideways with the other hand, do not take all of the side buds off at one go as this can cause a sudden rush of sap and cause the crown bud to split the calyx, gradually and in the morning is best.

Most books will advise shading the greenhouse glass to prevent scorching from strong sunlight, we have learned that here in the NE this is not advisable as deprived of any light will see the plants slow down, if certain cultivars need shading for colour then it is best to use fleece or netting over those plants once they have come into bloom.

Cut stems from the 7th node down from the crown bud and place in water ASAP, for showing placing a disc behind the guard petals.

Take cuttings between the 7th-10th node as these are the best.

We discard all plants once cuttings have been taken as we have found that the new cuttings have more vigour and make better growth, plus older plants can carry pest and disease.

A good start to growing Carnations for those who wish to make their own compost mix, is a mix such as below using a 2 gallon bucket (Builders bucket):-

2 Buckets of J.I. No 3.

1½ Buckets of Multi-compost.

½ Bucket of Perlite or sand (We use Perlite which makes the pots lighter to handle and is better for aeration)

4" Pot of limestone. (This is to assist in raising the ph. to around 6.5)

4" Pot of Vitax Q4.

2" Pot of Bonemeal.

Border Carnations.

Border Carnations are **NOT** stopped and for exhibition purposes pot on into at least a 2 litre pot using the same compost mix as Perpetuals, as stated do not stop the plant and allow the main crown bud to flower, removing side buds as they develop.

Only feed once with a higher potash feed when the crown bud is formed. Support the growing stem with at least a 3' cane and tie in the growing stem to the cane to keep the stem straight, use wire rings or twist ties for such.

They may be grown in the border and kept outside as they are totally frost hardy but if showing then protect the blooms from adverse weather conditions, if grown just for flower then do not remove the side buds as this will extend the flowering period.

We are still building up stock, so we will only have Border Carnations for sale as collections.

We are trying to build up a National collection, and for this we seek your help. It's unfortunate that Border Carnations are no longer as popular as they once were and due to this so many Border Carnations are being lost, if you can assist us with adding to our collection then please contact us as we would be extremely grateful for any cultivar of the older varieties, if you are unsure of their names then still contact us as we can trace the cultivars name and it would help build up a record. Please contact us if you can help or know of anyone who still grows these aristocrats of the Carnation world.



Garden Pinks.



Pinks are so versatile, they can be grown in just about any situ as long as there is good drainage and good light levels, the one thing that both Carnations and Pinks have in common is that they detest their roots being in pools of water.

If you can not provide Pinks with such growing conditions then grow them in pots or indeed any receptacle that has good drainage; we use clay terracotta pots due to them being porous and we use J.I.No 2 mixed 50/50 with grit and they flower from June until the severe frosts arrive, they provide a constant cut flower for the home plus they have the addition of being scented.

All the Pinks in the above photo are grown in some form of pot, box, or basket.

They are totally frost hardy and tough as old boots, the following page has some tips on how to look after them.

Garden Pinks.

Some tips on growing Garden Pinks for cut flower.

Ideally plant a row in the garden where they will have the maximum light and air movement.

They grow best in a position that gives good sun for at least six hours a day.

They prefer a neutral to Alkaline soil that drains well.

Pinks do not tolerate wet soil, overwatering and heavy clay soils are the kiss of death. If you can not give them the correct soil conditions then grow them in terracotta clay pots, use a good loam compost such as J.I.No2 mixed 50/50 with grit.

In winter keep any mulch and leaf debris away from the centre of the plants, do not mulch the plants in pots, as this can lead to stem rot.

Harvest the flowers when they are almost fully open - not in bud. Picking when the buds are too tight could result in the perfume not developing fully.

Cut off the stem at the base of the plant, in order to keep the plant tidy and to encourage repeat flowering.

Snap the stem at a node (joint) close to the base of the plant.

If the stems are tough it is preferable to cut the flowers with scissors or a knife to avoid damaging the plant and thereby reducing the risk of disease entering wounds.

Ensure the plants are regularly fed throughout the flowering season using a rose or tomato 1:1:2 fertiliser.

Watering is preferable at ground level rather than overhead which may damage the blooms. Some varieties may take a six week rest after the first flush of flower but after feeding and watering they will start again. This way you should be able to have a continuous harvest of blooms for cutting from the end of May until the end of September.

Spray Carnations.

Spray Carnations have been available for many years they are not as widely grown as they should be by the amateur gardener, possibly due to the bad press that they have had as most are viewed as the poor cut flower that are seen at garage forecourts or in the supermarkets, yet the present day Spray is nothing like these; they are an extremely excellent cut flower, especially nowadays they are available in lots of different colours.

Recent breeding has seen varieties that are totally frost hardy and they make good patio plants, in fact they can be grown in the garden. In a pot they are grown in exactly the same conditions as Perpetual Carnations, same compost and feed, and they will need stopping if they have not already been done so, this is the removal of the growing tip which once done will allow the flowering stems to form. Once formed the only difference is that instead of allowing only the crown bud to flower and removing all side buds it is the exact opposite for Sprays, once the flowering stem has produced the crown bud and it is large enough to handle then this is removed and all side buds are allowed to develop.

They perform consistently throughout the year providing a continuing supply of good sized high quality flowers, we grow them in both the poly-tunnel and outside in patio pots, these we grow in large terracotta clay pots, with either 3 or 5 to a pot depending on the pot size and with blue Lobelia around the edge of the pots they make a good patio pot; choosing varieties such as Milky Way which is scented is also a bonus, they certainly have the “wow” factor.

For anyone who want a good consistent supply of cut flowers for the house or for floral work there is nothing better than Spray Carnations with some good varieties now available. They are relatively trouble free and put on a good show providing blooms over a long period.

Perpetual Flowering Carnations.

Alicia.

A very nice bloom, white ground with purple ticks and purple wire edge.



Cervantes.

A cerise self which is a very good grower with good stems.



Copacabana.

A delicate soft terracotta with overlays of darker brown, really stunning.



Perpetual Flowering Carnations.

Cortes.

A vibrant scarlet red self.



Deep Faith.

A very striking light lavender colour with pink hues.



Dubai.

A very striking bloom, deep red colour self, short grower but with strong stems.



Perpetual Flowering Carnations.

Greenshot.

Deep green Self, always
looks good in the display.



Hugo.

A WGF Picotee self with
vibrant edge and ticks of red.



Kiro.

Strong bright yellow self, good
stems.



Perpetual Flowering Carnations.

Kirsi.

A real eyecatcher of a bloom, deep cerise Self.



Madam Augier.

A very good colour of orange with pink ticks.



Mandarin.

Golden orange self that stands out.



Perpetual Flowering Carnations.

Marty.

A sharp light green self.



Merida.

Striking bloom of orange with a cerise outer edge , very eye catching.



Mustang

Deep purple with ticks of light Pink.



Perpetual Flowering Carnations.

Nahema.

A strong Pink Self, always admired.



Noblesse.

A strong WGF with deep maroon edging.



Novia.

A very good peach self in a much needed colour.



Perpetual Flowering Carnations.

Orange Viana.

YGF with orange and red ticks with a red edge, a very visual looking flower.



Rapsody.

YGF with heavy light purple marking and deep edging.



Royal Damascus.

A pinkish ground Picotee with a darker maroon wire edge, a very striking flower and always in the forefront of our displays.



Perpetual Flowering Carnations.

Safari.

Red/pink with lighter edging
quite different.



Sense.

A soft Pink Self.



Tokyo (SM).

A really eye catching bloom
YGF. Looks stunning and a
welcome addition to our list.



Perpetual Flowering Carnations.

Viana.

YGF with dark maroon edging and ticks.



White Liberty.

A truly wonderful clear white self with good stems.



Yellow Viana.

A stunning YGF Picotee type with a pink edge, deeper yellow centre, making this a really nice bloom.



Garden Pinks.

Baileys Celebration.

A highly scented Bi- Colour variety.



Bridal Star.

Stunning pure white double flowers with iridescent ruffled petals with a clove fragrance



Cranmere Pool

A pure white double with a deep magenta centre, producing neat bushy plants and sturdy short stemmed



Devon Wizard.

Stunning purple flower with a red centre, another that's highly scented.



Garden Pinks.

Diane.

A sport of Doris, rose colour with slight scent.



Doris.

A well known cultivar of soft pink with a carmine red centre, highly scented.



Haytor.

Pure white flower with a good scent.



Houndspool Cheryl.

Another sport of Doris, a current red semi double with a nice scent.



Garden Pinks.

Memories.

A winner of many awards, with a spicy fragrance, a very nice compact plant and our favourite pink.



Pinball Wizard.

Fancy with pink flecks, sweet fragrance.



Red Carpet.

Very nice semi double with a nice fragrance.



Valda Wyatt.

A deep rosy lavender double, superb scent and a very good cut flower.



Spray Carnations.

Enigma.

A striking light purple with dark purple centre.



Milky Way.

A nice white self.



Osiris.

A beautiful deep purple self.



Time.

A very nice white ground Picotee with pink edging.



Wish.

Soft Pink self.



How to order.

All orders are subject to availability at the time of dispatch due to limited stock, as these are sold as surplus stock as we are not a commercial grower.

Full payment must accompany your order unless previous arrangement has been made, and all orders are subject to availability.

Should a variety be sold out we will substitute with a variety which is of equal unless advised no substitutes.

Cheques/postal orders made payable to :- G & K Carnations.

Orders will be dispatched when they are ready from March 2022.

All orders that are posted are sent first class with the Royal Mail and are subject to the correct carriage charge. (See our P & P Charges)

If for any reason you are dissatisfied with the plants then please return within 48 hours of receipt.

Acknowledgement of orders will not be sent, if you require such acknowledgement please send SAE or please give your email address.

All plants are sold subject to these terms and conditions.

Please print your POST CODE clearly, along with any contact details such as phone number or email address so that we can inform you that your plants have been sent.

Name

.....

Address

.....

.....

Post Code.....

Tel:-.....

Email address.....

All plants in the catalogue are priced at **£2.50p each.**

We do offer the following collections and all the plants are from this catalogue.

Perpetual Carnation Collection

This collection will be made up of 10 Perpetual Carnations of our choosing and priced at £20 per collection.

Border Carnation Collection

This collection will be made up of 10 Border Carnations of our choosing and priced at £20 per collection.

Spray Carnation Collection

This collection will be made up of 10 Spray Carnations of our choosing and priced at £20 per collection.

Garden Pink Collection

This collection will be made up of 10 Garden Pinks of our choosing and priced at £20 per collection.

U.K. Delivery charges will be up to and including 10 plants **£10** and thereafter 11– 20 plants will be **£15.**

For larger orders of 20 plants and more,
the price of delivery **£20.**

Please send all orders to:-

G & K Carnations
52, Abbotside Close, Urpeth Grange, Ouston,
Chester Le St, Co Durham, DH2 1TQ.
Tel: 01914106725

Variety	No	£	Variety	No	£
Alicia			Baileys Celebration		
Cervantes			Bridal Star		
Copacabano			Cranmere Pool		
Cortes			Devon Wizard		
Deep Faith			Diane		
Dubai			Doris		
Greenshot			Haytor		
Hugo			Houndspool Cheryl		
Kiro			Memories		
Kirsi			Pinball Wizard		
Madam Augier			Red Carpet		
Mandarin			Valda Wyatt		
Marty			Total		
Mustang			Variety	No	£
Nahema			Enigma		
Noblesse			Milky Way		
Novia			Osiris		
Orange Viana			Time		
Rapsody			Wish		
Royal Damascus			Total		
Safari			Collections	No	£
Sense			Perpetuals		
Tokyo			Sprays		
Viana			Garden Pinks		
White Liberty			Borders		
Yellow Viana			Total		
Total					

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DH2 1TQ.

Email: gandkcarnations@gmail.com

Tel; 01914106725

Website: gandkcarnations.com