

## Curcuma Hidden Ginger



Curcuma gingers (*Curcuma* spp.), commonly called hidden gingers, produce spikey flowers in bright red, yellow, pink, orange or white. These herbaceous perennials add a tropical look to the landscape with their dark green, sword-shaped leaves. Depending upon the specific variety, hidden gingers grow in U.S. Department of Agriculture plant hardiness zones 8 through 11.

### Planting Curcuma Ginger

The curcuma ginger plant grows best in full to partial shade and sandy or loamy, fast-draining soils. They require 2 to 3 feet of space, depending upon the variety, to accommodate their mature spread. Position the rhizome horizontally in the planting hole. The top side of the rhizome should sit no more than 1 to 1 1/2 inches below the ground's surface with its bottom side sitting about 4 inches below ground level. Hidden ginger rhizomes benefit from a deep watering, to about 6 inches, immediately after planting.

### Water and Fertilizer Requirements

Hidden ginger plants require consistently and evenly moist [soil](#). Water whenever the top 1/2 to 1 inch [soil](#) becomes dry throughout the active growing season.. Never allow the soil to become soggy. Hidden ginger plants require no water during their dormant period, which begins in fall, once their foliage dies back. A monthly application of 20-20-20 nitrogen, phosphorous, potassium slow-release [fertilizer](#) throughout the active growing season will keep the plant supplied with nutrients. Apply the [fertilizer](#) at a rate of 1 teaspoon per 1 square foot of [soil](#).