

GRAVEYARD GOTHIC GARDEN



Planting, Care, Variety, and Garden Information

THE GRAVEYARD GOTHIC GARDEN™

Grow your own Graveyard Gothic Garden™ with plants of witches, the undead, and unholy! The Gothic Garden celebrates plants that are strange, ugly, and sharp. As you will see, even the seeds of some of these plants are bizarre! Simply plant the seeds in the plots you have created with the Blood Rock and Headstones, water and step back!

This complete kit celebrating the macabre contains everything you need to create your own authentic Graveyard Gothic Garden™ including: 5 color seeds packs, Tombstone Plant Stakes, Blood Rock, assorted skulls and spiders, graveyard fill planting mixture and a terrarium of terror, complete with 3 unnerving decals! The booklet includes detailed sprouting, growing, and care information as well as the Gothic history and lore of the included plants. Plants will start sprouting in days and lasts for years with minimal care.

Add your own broken pottery and decaying sticks to make your own Gothic Graveyard Garden of Ruination! Anything broken, decayed, or ugly will do.

Contents Included With Your Graveyard Gothic Garden™

Growing Dome
Planting Mixture
Five Gothic Seed Packs:
Aloe
Dragon Tree
Sensitive Plant
Black Dragon Coleus
Moonflower
3 Skulls and 2 Large Spiders
3 Gothic Photo Decals
1 Bag of Blood Rock™
Instructions and Information Manual

Tips on Designing Your Garden

1. It is important to plant the types of plants in groupings, as opposed to mixing them up. This will allow them to grow best in their own "microclimate." This will happen naturally if you are planting each plant in a separate Grave.
2. You can also scatter seeds everywhere and mix plants in Graves as that is probably more suited to the chaos of the Gothic Garden.
3. Make sure you follow the instructions carefully in terms of the order of things.
4. It is best to first outline your graves with the Blood Rock™. Be sure to make them large enough to maximize your growing space.
5. It is not necessary to use all the seeds. If you have, consider removing some and leaving the healthy seedlings 1/4" to 1/2" apart.
6. When placing the seeds, consider the growth patterns as outlined below:
 - a. Aloe, slowest to sprout, must be under a layer of blue gravel to sprout. When it grows, it will be a thin plant with thick leaves
 - b. Black Dragon Coleus sprouts very quickly and grows tall and bushy.
 - c. Moonflower sprouts in less than two weeks and will vine and flower blood red flowers.
 - d. Sensitive Plant sprouts in about a week. Keep in warm setting.
 - e. Dragon Tree- Takes up to a month to sprout, but grows very quickly after germination. It is the tallest plant in the mix.

How To Grow Your Own Graveyard Gothic Garden™

- Design your Graveyard Gothic Garden™ on paper;
- Apply Gothic Decals on desired panels on base of planting container;
- Carefully empty the bag of planting mixture into the base of the terrarium. Break up any large clumps;

- Add 2 cups of water to the planting mixture and combine;
- Gently press and smooth soil so there are no clumps on the surface;
- Use the Tombstone Stakes to mark out five gravesites, outline the graves with half of the Blood Rock™;
- Make "paths" through your Graveyard Gothic Garden™ the remaining Blood Rock™. Paths should be about 1" wide x 1/4" high;
- Place Aloe seeds on top of soil and spread a solid layer of Blood Rock™ over the Aloe seeds;
- Place each variety of seed in groupings at individual graves, with each seed at least 1/4" apart. Seed should be on top of the soil;
- Being careful not to wash the seeds or gravel away; gently apply additional water on all seeds and gravel until soil is thoroughly wet.
- Line up the tabs on your dome lid and planting base so they form a "V" and snap dome lid onto planting base.
- Now you are ready! Place your Graveyard Gothic Garden™ near a window that receives bright light.

Caring For Your Graveyard Gothic Garden™

- Since your Graveyard Gothic Garden™ will only need to be watered once initially, it is best to water plants with lukewarm water and if possible use rainwater or distilled water.
- Avoid letting your garden get cold at night.
- When the dome lid is on the planting base, the water will recycle. You will only need to add water once every 4-6 months!
- Cover top holes with tape in the spring and summer and remove in fall and winter as all plants in the Graveyard Gothic Garden™ prefer more water in the summer and less in the winter.
- While the plants in your garden are resilient, and can provide you with years of growth, it is critical to not over-water them.
- The plants in your Graveyard Gothic Garden™ prefer bright light, but do not want to be in direct sunlight for long periods of time.
- For best results, rotate the Graveyard Gothic Garden™ a quarter-turn every few days.
- If the soil appears too wet, try leaving the lid off so some of the moisture can evaporate.
- If the plants become too leggy, feel free to trim them to a one inch height. This is called "pinching off" or cutting new growth.
- Do not grow your Graveyard Gothic Garden™ in the following areas: near an air-conditioning or heating vent, in a dark area, in an unheated area, outside in full sun, on drafty windowsills, or on electrical appliances.

Plants



Moonflower (*Ipomoea Crimson Rambler*)

Witches would wrap morning glory stems around a person nine times to cast a wicked spell; it had to be used 3 days before a full moon.

Planting:

- Can soak in warm water for a few hours before planting or nick seed
- Germinates in 5-7 days

Care:

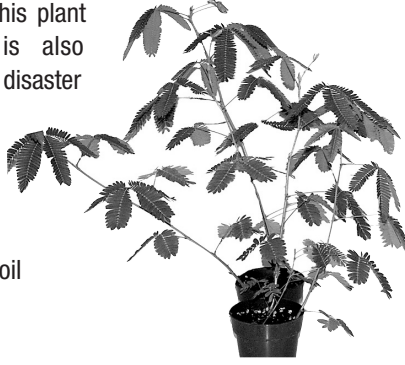
- Likes well drained soil that is not too rich. If the soil is too fertile, the plant will not flower. Do not fertilize this plant
- Can tolerate drier soil
- Needs the support of a fence or trellis

Information:

- Grows 8-10 feet tall
- Blooms in morning and flower usually fades by afternoon
- An aggressive annual vine that reseeds freely
- Flowers and leaves are edible
- Also called Cardinal Climber, Cypress Vine, and Moonflower
- Native to the Tropics

Sensitive Plant (*Mimosa Pudica*)

A staple of the Gothic Garden, this plant that moves when touched is also considered to be a forewarning of disaster when grown indoors.



Planting:

- Seeds prefer continual darkness until they sprout.
- Cover with 1/8th of an inch of soil
- Sprouts in about a week

Care:

- Likes bright light
- This plant likes high humidity and will appreciate being misted

Information:

- Amazing foliage closes when touched, when cold, or exposed to prolonged darkness!
- Foliage opens in daylight and 1-1.5 hours after being touched
- Has attractive sensitive foliage within a few weeks of sprouting
- Sometimes will get ball-like flowers in the Spring

Dracena (*Dracaena Draco*)

The pent ultimate gothic Plant – Sharp, Ugly, and Strange. The seed is the size of a pea, ghostly white and covered in a strange white powder.



Planting:

- You can soak seeds in warm water for a few hours before planting
- Push seed into the planting mixture about 1/4"
- Will take 15-25 days to sprout

Care:

- Likes to be kept moist, a little drier in the winter
- Keep warm
- Lower leaves will fall off naturally
- Sword-shaped leaves will have a red-edge if kept in good light and will toughen with age

Information:

- Will develop into interesting foliage plants within three months
- This plant is a giant in its own environment, but only grows to be four feet indoors.
- Not related to true palms

Black Dragon Coleus

One of the few black plants, this is a must for any Gothic Garden!



Planting:

- Seeds need light to germinate, place seeds on surface of soil
- Takes up to ten days to germinate

Care:

- Needs only two to four hours of sun a day indoors!
- Keep warm and well watered
- Likes to be fertilized with a high nitrogen fertilizer once a month during the summer and spring
- Pinch regularly to make bushier
- Pinch flowers off before blooming to prevent the plant from going to seed and dying
- Cuttings can be rooted in water in a warm spot

Information:

- Plants will show black and maroon coloring within a few weeks of sprouting!
- There are an amazing array of varieties with different leaf colors and shapes.

Aloe

An esteemed member of both the Lunacy Garden Plant List and the Exorcism Garden



Planting:

- Place seed on top of pre-moistened soil in a covered planting container;

- Place a layer of gravel on top of the seed and push down;
- Water and place in a sunny spot.

Care:

- Let dry out thoroughly between watering.
- Likes bright light and partial sun, depending on size.
- Because the plant is 95% water, it can not be allowed to freeze.

Information:

- The first mention of Aloe Vera as a medicine dates back to 1700 BC.
- Cleopatra supposedly bathed in the juices of the plant to maintain her youthful appearance.
- Christopher Columbus stated Aloe as one of the four indispensable vegetables.
- There are 200 biologically active compounds in aloe.
- 250 human health problems have been targeted with Aloe.
- Aloe is one of the most famed plants of Arabian Medicine.
- In East Africa, Aloe is an ancient medicinal plant that is still very popular today.

Other Plants and Gothic Gardens

There were many plants generally associated with ill luck or death, such as beefsteak geraniums, cacti (in Hungary), lilacs, and any flower usually associated with funerals, such as chrysanthemums or lilies. The Germans believe that no flowers should be placed in the mouth of a corpse, because the dead man would chew on them and then become a 'Nachzehrer' who draws his relatives into the grave after him. It is unlucky to pick up flowers which have dropped on the ground. And any flower that blooms out of season is considered 'touched by the devil'.

Witches would have three or four rows of red flowers (geraniums, nasturtiums, red-hot poker) surrounding their gardens as a defense against witch hunters. These flowers were known as "witch soldiers". Herbs for black magic had to be gathered during certain phases of the moon, and they had to be gathered from a spot that the sun had not touched, since witches' work cannot stand the light of day. It was favorable to collect an odd number of sprigs, and best was 7 or 9. To make potions, three kinds of wood had to be used to boil the water. Witches would also keep a variety of different flowers growing in the garden, so that they had flowers from every group in their flora chart. This would allow them to have power over people of any birth sign.

Growing your Grave Goods

Unlike the modern aphorism, 'You can't take it with you', most cultures around the world did a great deal to make the transition into the Afterworld comfortable for the being in question, which meant including objects in the grave which would travel with the person. These objects were often of a person nature, and would include stones, artifacts, minerals, shells, vessels, amulets, food, and drugs. The Neanderthals of Shanidar (present day Iraq), put flowers in graves 60,000 years ago.

Visit www.graveyardgothicgarden.com for more information! Also Visit www.gothicgarden.net for tons of cool information about gothic gardening.

Credits

Alice Day, providing content to create instructions. Her web site is www.gothicgarden.net

CUSTOMER SERVICE

Visit our web site: www.graveyardgarden.com for more information about this product.

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