



Nyee Phoe Flower Garden

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Landscape Design and Construction

Q1: I was thinking of redoing my garden, how should I go about doing it and how much will it cost me if I were to engage your professional services?

A1: Just let us know your needs and wants, estimated budget (if any) and we will propose a landscape design accordingly. Charges due are dependent on the size of your garden, the concept and theme and lastly the types of plant you require.

Plant Maintenance

Q2: How often should I maintain my garden?

A2: Below is a rough guide to the frequency of maintenance:-

Operations	Frequency
Watering (dependent on weather conditions)	Daily
Weeding	Fortnightly
Fertilizing	Once a month
Pruning	Fortnightly or as and when necessary
Pest Control	As and when necessary
Topdressing (sand or topsoil)	As and when necessary
Grasscutting	Fortnightly for carpet grass Once a month for cowgrass

Q3: My potted plant looks wrinkled and dying, the leaves are turning yellowish day by day. Help!

A3: When was the last time you water your plant? Check also the size of plant, has your plant outgrown its pot? When did you last fertilize your plant? Because plants, like any other living things, need nutrients especially since it is confined to a limited space.

Q4: Why does my plants gets burnt, after I fertilized it?

A4: First of all, the soil has to have at least 25% of moisture before fertilization. So make sure you water your plants before and after fertilization. Adding of excess amount of fertilizer, will also cause burning of plants. So always read the instructions on the fertilizer packaging before application.

Q5: I have a big problem on soil for my plants. Recently, I bought some "branded" ready mixed potting mix but find that it is very water absorbent. It needs lots of watering to "fill" it up which makes the soil very damp. I notice that most people, as well as nurseries just use the "normal" soil for planting and their plants look very healthy. So should I switch to the "normal" soil instead? I have seen different bags of "normal" soil like Burnt Earth, Volcanic Soil, compost etc, thus how do I choose the combination for a general mixture? On the other hand, since I already have the ready mixed soil, which soil can I obtain to make it less damp, can my ready mixed soil be used as compost and added to the "normal" soil? Or should I make an overhaul to all my soil? Lastly, I am confuse over the term compost and humus, what are they and what is their difference?

A5: Humus is decaying organic matter in the soil they are mainly derived from dead leaves and roots, animal dung and other waste substances produced by animals and plants.

Whereas compost are prepared mixtures of rotted organic matter such as animal dung and etc, ready to add to soil. The difference is that humus is still decaying but compost is already decayed.

There are different types of potting mix in the market, each different types serve different purposes for different plants. For example, sandy potting mix is suitable for cacti. The potting mix you bought probably is meant for ferns. Check the package instructions before buying.

Nurseries used the normal soil (topsoil) because it is relatively cheaper than the other normal soils. Normal topsoil is just as good as other commercial 'normal' soils in the market. It is highly recommended.

Burnt Earth is relatively dry, Volcanic soil has a high carbon content,

compost is great as a soil enhancement (natural non-toxic fertilizer). Perhaps you can mix the 3 together, 3 parts burnt earth, 1 part volcanic soil and 2 parts compost.

Q6: How often should I water the plants and how do I take care of them?

A6: All indoor plants should be watered at least 2-3 times a week. Fertilizing is needed as well. Slow release fertilizers is preferred for indoor plants, always follow the instructions for usage on the packaging. If the indoor plants are kept in a corner without any light, bring it out for sunning once a week.

Q7: I bought a packet of fertilizer for my plants recently, as instructed on the packaging, I faithfully applied the recommended amount to the plants regularly, but the stem of my plants starts to rot and some died! Why!?

A7: There are many reasons for the rotting of your plants. One reason is the way the plants were fertilized. Care must be taken if you are using the pellet-form fertilizer, they are of the stronger type of fertilizer. So while applying, avoid the area around the stem. Sprinkle the fertilizer away from the stem and this may prevent the stem from rotting.

As for the powder form, as long as you water the plants while applying the fertilizer, there is no reason for the stem to rot.

Q8: My plants at home attracted some insects, eg red spider mites, ants. I have kids at home and these insects can be a real nuisance. What should I do?

A8: Don't worry! We have a few products that we can recommend for such problems. In biological terms, they are called pesticides. Pesticides include both insecticide and fungicide and they come in both liquid and powder form. For the insecticide, it is usually used for killing insects that are visible to the naked eye, such as ants. As for the fungicide, it is for destroying fungus that is not visible to the naked eye, usually located in the leaves. All these products can be purchase at our nursery . Instructions on usage are also printed clearly on the cover of the products.