



Growing Asiatic Lily Seeds

Lily seed requires consistent moisture for germination. These seeds take a relatively long time to germinate and therefore are in danger of rotting in soggy conditions. Careful wetting control of the potting soil, vermiculite or coffee filter will help keep the seeds from rot.

Method 1 – Potting Soil

1. Start seed at 18 C or 65 F.
2. Use a clean pot that has drainage holes.
3. Fill pot $\frac{3}{4}$ full with seed starting evenly damp soil-less mix, breaking up any lumps.
4. Place seed on soil 3 cm apart.
5. Cover seed with 1/2 cm of fine seed starting mix. Pat the soil for seed to soil contact.
6. Keep the soil moist with a plastic cover.
7. Little green looped seedlings should start appearing at **20 days**.
8. Place under lights.

Method 2- Vermiculite or Perlite in a Sandwich Bag or Clear Container

1. Place 1/2 cup vermiculite or perlite in a bag or clear container that has a lid.
2. Add water until medium is damp but not soggy.
3. Sprinkle in seeds, up to 30 in a sandwich bag.
4. Close bag or container, store at 18 C or 65 F.
5. Keep an eye on bags. Topping up moisture as needed. Condensation in good.
6. At about **14 days** you will start to see growth, let them grow for 2-3 weeks.
7. Gently transplant to pots with a well drained potting mix. Put under lights

Method 3- Coffee Filter or Paper Towel in a Sandwich Bag or Clear Container

1. Place coffee filter in clear container.
2. Wet coffee filter, pour off excess water.
3. Place seeds on coffee filter.
4. Close lid, store at 18 C or 65 F.
5. Watch for condensation, this is good. Dampen filter as needed, keep from drying out.
6. You should see growth starting at **10 days**. Leave in container for 1-2 weeks
7. Gently transplant to pots with a well drained potting mix. Put under lights

Transplant the lilies to the garden from summer to fall. Leave in the ground and they should bloom within 2 to 3 years.

Tip: If you see mould growing, remove any mouldy seeds and spray medium with a 1 part bleach solution to 9 parts water or 1 part hydrogen peroxide solution to 9 parts water.