

Clivia sp.

Clivias are hardy plants for the shaded areas of the garden, with clusters of trumpet flowers forming on stems above clumps of dark green, strappy foliage. Flowers come in shades of orange, red, yellow, cream or orange/yellow bicolour and will form at different times of the year depending on the variety. Clivias can be found at Heyne's Garden Centre throughout the year, subject to availability.

How to grow:

Clivias are ideal for shaded garden situations, including morning sun and afternoon shade or beneath deciduous trees and shrubs. They will tolerate drier areas once they have become established. Protection from frost is essential, as is shade from hot afternoon sun to prevent scorch marks on the foliage.

They prefer soil with good drainage, so dig through some compost before planting. They look great in pots as well. Use a potting mix with good drainage in a large pot. Clivias require watering during the warmer months but are generally considered to be a low water-use plant.

Fertilise after flowering with an all-purpose fertiliser.

Once mature, Clivias can be divided into smaller plants and spread around the garden or into pots. No pruning is required; however, the removal of damaged foliage helps to control pests and fungal issues.

Strappy leaves are a favourite hiding place for mealy, caterpillars, slugs and snails. Keep a watchful eye on the foliage and see your local garden centre for advice if you should find any sig ns of pest activity.

Clivia miniata

The most commonly recognised Clivia, with long, strappy foliage and orange/yellow flowers from winter to spring.

Clivia miniata 'Belgium Hybrid'

A compact form with shorter (around 50cm), rounded, strappy foliage with flowers available in shades of orange and yellow.

