Chrysanthemums

Today on Gardening in a Minute: chrysanthemums.

Chrysanthemums, or mums, are popular and colorful perennials. These flowers come in many colors, from white to deep red, and a variety of sizes. Mums are easy to grow and can live for years.

When buying potted chrysanthemums, look for healthy, well-shaped plants with many flower buds. Garden mums like sun, but can also thrive in partial shade and are fairly cold-hardy.

When planting mums, incorporate plenty of organic matter into your soil. Water as needed and apply a slow-release fertilizer. Some varieties need to be pinched once or twice a season to maintain a compact, well-branched form.

Mums naturally set buds and flower fall through spring, when days are short. But flowering mums can be purchased blooming at any time. Nothing says fall like a garden full of mums!

For more information on chrysanthemums and many other gardening topics, contact your county Extension office or visit Gardening in a Minute dot com.

Gardening in a Minute is a production of the University of Florida’s Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology, IFAS Extension, and WUFT-FM.