

RICINUS



- Ricinus is also known as castor bean plant or castor oil plant.
- In the UK it is usually grown as an annual, producing an erect, branching shrub that will typically get to around 1.5m tall and 1m wide by the end of summer.
- It is generally self-supporting, but if you plant it in a particularly exposed site you may need to stake it. It doesn't usually need pruning.
- Ricinus does produce flowers, but it is grown primarily as a foliage plant with large glossy leaves. We grow several different varieties that each have different foliage colours. The colours will be marked on the plant label.
- Ricinus grows well in most soil types, but grows best in a moist, free-draining soil, in full sunlight. It can be grown in pots or borders, and if growing in a pot, be sure to use a good quality compost like John Innes 3.
- If left outside overwinter, Ricinus will likely be killed by the frost. If it's in a pot it can be moved to a frost-free greenhouse or conservatory.
- Ricinus seeds are toxic if eaten, so you may find it best to dead-head flowers to prevent the plant from setting seed.