

How do I find out more about dahlias?

Contact the Dahlia Society of Alabama. Our basic purpose is to disseminate information on how to grow dahlias. Our monthly meetings at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens are largely oriented towards instruction in dahlia culture. We always welcome visitors or new members. You do not have to be growing a single dahlia to come to a meeting, which are the fourth Thursday of each month, at 7:30 PM.

The Dahlia Society of Alabama annual dahlia show is the first Saturday in October. Usually we have about a 1000 show quality blooms on display. The show is free and open to the public.

For more information about the Dahlia society of Alabama please contact:
Ed Whitfield, President
(205)979-7181

Dahlia Society of Alabama

What is a dahlia?

Dahlias are rapidly growing flowering plants that bloom from mid-summer until frost. Dahlia plants vary in height from less than two feet to over eight feet tall. Bloom size varies from about an inch across to fifteen inches (or more!). The blooms can be enjoyed as cut flowers, or left in the garden. Dahlia blooms come in just about every imaginable color.

Why grow dahlias?

"WOW, you grew that?!!"

Because of size, perfection of shape, or color intensity, people who don't know about dahlias are often so amazed they initially don't believe they are real. They are unique because one can almost never buy them from a florist. And because they come in such a wide variety of shapes sizes and colors, there are dahlias that almost everyone will personally find incredible.

Dahlias bloom when many other flowering plants have quit for the year. Most bloom prolifically, and respond to being cut by producing more blooms.

What do dahlias need?

Dahlias love well-drained loamy soil with a minimum of 6 hours of sun per day. They are usually grown from tubers, but can be grown from seeds or cuttings. If the soil doesn't freeze, they will regrow as a perennial, but the tubers should really be dug and divided each year.

Who doesn't want to grow dahlias?

Dahlias really don't do very well if you just put them in the ground and ignore them. Dahlias are not hard to grow well, but require a little work on a regular basis. Because they are so fast growing, they really respond to the attention.