Do's and Don'ts of Poinsettia Care

- DO place your plant in indirect sunlight for at least six hours per day. If direct sun can't be avoided, diffuse the light with a shade or sheer curtain.
- DO provide room temperatures between 68 - 70° F. Generally, if you are comfortable, so is your poinsettia.
- DO water your plant when the soil feels dry to the touch.
- DO fertilize your plant AFTER THE BLOOMING SEASON with a balanced, all-purpose fertilizer.
- DON'T place plants near cold drafts or excessive heat. Avoid placing plants near appliances, fireplaces or air ducts.
- DON'T expose plants to temperatures below 50° F. Poinsettias are sensitive to cold, so do not place them outside during the winter months.
- DON'T overwater your plant, or allow it to sit in standing water. Always remove a plant from any decorative container before watering, and allow the water to drain completely.
- DON'T expose your plant to chilling winds when transporting it. Use the plant sleeve provided when you purchased the plant.
- DON'T fertilize your plant when it is in bloom.

Poinsettias…Not your ordinary red

With nearly 75 million sold each year, the poinsettia is the most popular potted holiday plant in the country. Although red poinsettias are still a favorite, many novelty poinsettia varieties are winning the hearts of Christmas plant connoisseurs. Poinsettias are being bred in many color and size combinations. Leaves can be light or dark. The bracts – the blooming part of the plant, which traditionally is red – also come in maroon, white, champagne, pink, purple, salmon and mottled. They can be small, large, flat or billowy. Listed are some of the colors we will be carrying in the expanding poinsettia pallet:

Red (of course): ranging from plain old fire-engine to bracts that look like red velvet.

White: from pure white to cream.

Pink: from pale to coral.

Burgundy: look for 'Plum Pudding.'

Marbled, speckled, and splashed: in shades of red, pink, and cream.

Variegated: that is, the leaves are a mixture of green and cream.

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