

# ***Begonia tuberhybrida*** **Illumination® Salmon Pink**

Tuberous-rooted Begonia, Begonia  
tuberosa

## **Culture guide**

### **Uses:**

Hanging baskets, patio containers, window boxes  
and pot plants

### **Exposure:**

Sun - Partial shade

### **Garden height:**

8" / 20 cm

### **Crop time:**

18-20 weeks

### **Sow time:**

November for flowering pots from April onwards,  
December-January for flowering bedding plants  
from May onwards

### **Sowing method:**

1-2 seeds/pellets per plug

### **Germination:**

Germination will occur in 7-14 days at 75-78 °F  
(23-25 °C). Sow seed on a fine media with good  
water holding capacity and good drainage.  
Consistent moisture levels are important to  
uniform germination. Humidity levels above 95 %  
and a media pH between 5.5 and 6.5 are  
important. Do not cover seed as light is required  
to germinate. Supplemental 24-hour assimilation  
light provided at this stage will increase  
germination, reduce crop time and improve plug  
quality.

### **Growing On:**

Transplant plugs into finished containers with a  
well drained media, and pH of 5.5 to 6.5. Maintain  
day length in excess of 14 hours. Continued  
supplemental lighting will improve plant quality  
and shorten crop time. Growing temperatures  
between 68-72 °F (18-22 °C) optimize growth and  
flowering. Fertilize at 150-250 ppm nitrogen in a  
well-balanced formula.

### **Media:**

Use a well-drained, growing substrate with 15-30  
% clay, 0-20 % perlite, 1-2 kg/m<sup>2</sup>  
complete balanced fertilizer, iron-chelate,  
micronutrients, pH 5.5-6.2.

### **Temperature:**

Grow at 16-18 °C. 10 days before selling  
temperature can be decreased  
to 16 °C. Temperatures below 14 °C will result in  
tuber formation and crop delay.

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### **Fertilization:**

Moderate fertilization levels are required. Fertilize  
weekly with 150-200 ppm

nitrogen, using a complete and potassium  
balanced fertilizer (N:K<sub>2</sub>O-ratio: 1:1,5). Keep low  
ammonium levels, otherwise the roots become  
damaged. At high nitrogen levels the foliage can  
become very big. Avoid pH above 6.5, as high  
pH causes iron deficiency. Apply chelated iron,  
if chlorosis becomes a problem. To prevent  
magnesium deficiency apply magnesium sulphate  
(0,025 %) 1-2 times. Additional foliage  
fertilization with potassium supports compact  
plant  
growth and provides a dark green foliage colour.  
Avoid high soluble salts in the soil.

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