

Halton Region Master Gardeners

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Peony Seedling

I have a peony seedling, which started to sprout from a seed, which I collected from one of peony bushes in the fall of 2011. I am not sure of the variety, but the blooms are a gorgeous pink, and I would obviously like to nurse it along so I can eventually plant it in my garden. At the moment it is in a pot with four leaves on a long stalk, which are now beginning to brown at the edges (presumably because we are now well into Fall. Up to now I have kept the pot in the house since I planted the seed. I am wondering whether to put it out in my garage so that it will overwinter and continue to develop. Any advice would be greatly appreciated

David

I don't think the seedling would be mature enough to overwinter in a pot if it freezes. I would keep it in a cool bright place, lightly watered. When the leaf dies down, let the pot dry, then store it in a plastic bag until Mid March, then bring it into a warm bright spot and start watering again. If and when growth starts fertilize at half strength and plant out after the last frost. Good luck, its chances are 50/50

David M.