



For the joy of gardening!

Estabrook's

SUMMER FLOWERING SPIREA CARE

LIGHT

Japanese and Bumald spireas (*Spiraea japonica* and *S. x bumalda*), including summer-flowering Double Play selections, grow best in full sun. Light shade is tolerated, but sun improves flowering and colorful foliage. Space for the variety's mature rounded mound.

WATER

Water deeply after planting and keep the root ball and surrounding soil evenly moist during establishment. Check below the mulch before watering again. Established plants need less frequent attention, but a prolonged dry spell calls for a slow soaking at the base.

SOIL & PLANTING

Use ordinary, well-drained garden soil. Set the root ball at its original nursery level and leave room for the cultivar's mature width. Spread a light layer of mulch over the roots, leaving a clear gap around the stem bases.

FEEDING

Avoid heavy feeding when growth is already healthy. If a soil test or persistent weak growth indicates a need, apply a modest spring dose of shrub fertilizer at the label rate. Check moisture and drainage before assuming that more fertilizer is the answer.

SEASONAL CARE

Flowers form on new growth. Remove dead wood and thin older, woody stems in early spring if needed; routine hard cutting is unnecessary. A light trim after the first flowers fade can tidy the plant and encourage fresh growth. For Ice Dragon, follow the label's after-flowering shaping advice.

HELPFUL TIPS

Removing faded blooms is optional; Double Play Doozie reblooms without deadheading. Flower and foliage colors vary by cultivar, and autumn leaf drop is normal. This guide excludes Blue Kazoo, birchleaf spireas, and spring-flowering arching types, which have separate guides.