



For the joy of gardening!

Estabrook's

CABBAGE & KALE CARE GUIDE

LIGHT

Grow ornamental cabbage and kale outdoors in sun. They are grown for colorful leaves, not flowers. Choose compact plants in the size you want, since autumn growth can be limited.

WATERING

Keep roots evenly moist, checking containers often. Water the soil thoroughly and let excess drain. Do not allow the root ball to dry completely or remain waterlogged. Cool weather reduces water use but does not eliminate it.

SOIL

Plant in fertile, well-drained garden soil or fresh container mix. Set the lowest leaves near the soil surface without filling the center with soil. Give each rosette enough room to show its color.

TEMPERATURE

Cool weather improves the pink, white and purple colors. Acclimated plants tolerate frost, but severe cold and repeated freezing eventually damage the display. Treat these as seasonal ornamentals rather than dependable winter perennials in Maine.

FERTILIZING

Use fertilizer sparingly, following the product label. Avoid forcing soft growth as weather cools. Steady moisture and suitable light matter more for these seasonal displays.

PESTS

Check for caterpillars and aphids. Remove damaged lower leaves and keep plants tidy. Ask us about an appropriate treatment if needed. Plants sold as ornamentals may have been treated for decorative use; do not use them for food.