



For the joy of gardening!

Estabrook's

PERENNIAL SALVIA CARE

LIGHT

Hardy perennial sages, including *Salvia nemorosa*, *verticillata* and related border hybrids, bloom best in full sun. Light shade is tolerated, but deep shade reduces flowering and may weaken stems. Give the cultivar its labeled mature spacing. This guide does not cover tender tropical salvias or culinary sage.

WATERING

Water new plants while roots establish, then during extended dry spells. Established border sages tolerate some drought, but prolonged dryness can shorten the flower display. Check the soil before watering and allow excess water to drain. Container plants require closer attention than plants in a garden bed.

SOIL & PLANTING

Choose well-drained garden soil, including sandy or gravelly ground. Plant at the original nursery level and keep the crown clear of heavy mulch. Avoid winter-wet pockets. Leave room for air circulation and follow the label for the mature width of compact and larger selections.

FERTILIZING

Most plants need only modest fertility in ordinary garden soil. Avoid excessive nitrogen that encourages soft growth. Use compost lightly if soil is poor, and base supplemental fertilizer on a soil test and product directions. Light and drainage should be checked before trying to correct poor flowering by feeding.

FLOWERS & PRUNING

After the first flower spikes fade, trim spent stems back to healthy leafy growth to encourage another flush where the cultivar responds. Preserve fresh shoots and basal leaves. Flowering season and repeat bloom vary between selections. Remove individual damaged or diseased stems as needed.

SEASONAL CARE

Leave healthy basal growth and tidy dead stems in spring. Divide crowded clumps when needed, keeping roots with each section and watering divisions until established. Watch for slugs, mildew and rot in wet sites. Confirm cultivar hardiness for exposed gardens and containers; perennial salvias differ in cold tolerance.