



For the joy of gardening!

Estabrook's

CLIMBING HYDRANGEA CARE

LIGHT

Deciduous climbing hydrangea (*Hydrangea anomala* subsp. *petiolaris*) grows in partial shade or sun where moisture is reliable. It is useful on a shaded wall or strong support. Allow generous room: an established vine becomes large and heavy, despite its often slow start.

WATER

Water deeply after planting and monitor the root ball during establishment. Keep soil moderately moist during dry spells, especially near walls where rainfall may not reach the roots. Avoid repeated wilting or waterlogged ground. Mulch over the root zone helps reduce drying.

SOIL & PLANTING

Plant at nursery depth in humus-rich, well-drained soil. Leave space from a wall so roots receive water. Choose a sound, durable structure able to carry the mature vine. Guide young shoots toward the support and inspect attachments as growth develops.

FEEDING

Use compost or a modest spring feeding where soil is poor, following label directions. Avoid repeatedly feeding a young vine simply because it is slow to climb. Root establishment, suitable moisture and time are more important than trying to force rapid growth with fertilizer.

SEASONAL CARE

Flowers develop on old wood. Trim overlong side shoots just after flowering if control is needed. Preserve the main framework and avoid severe annual pruning. Major renovation can reduce flowering for several seasons, so reduce an overgrown vine gradually rather than cutting everything at once.

HELPFUL TIPS

Be patient during establishment; growth can become vigorous later. Keep shoots away from gutters, vents and roofing, and monitor the supporting structure. This guide covers deciduous *petiolaris*, excluding tender evergreen climbing hydrangeas. Check local hardiness and watch for persistent wilt or leaf damage.