



For the joy of gardening!

Estabrook's

ROSE OF SHARON CARE

LIGHT

Rose of Sharon (*Hibiscus syriacus*) flowers best in full sun, though some light shade is tolerated. Choose the cultivar for its mature habit: Pillar selections grow narrowly, while other types spread more broadly. Provide open space for light and air circulation.

WATER

Water slowly after planting to moisten the entire root ball and nearby soil. Keep young plants evenly moist while roots establish, checking beneath the mulch before watering again. During prolonged dry weather, provide a thorough soaking rather than frequent light sprinkling. Avoid prolonged saturation.

SOIL & PLANTING

Use well-drained garden soil. Plant at the original nursery depth and mulch around the roots without burying the crown. Space for the cultivar's mature size, including room around a grafted tree form. Avoid a low spot that holds standing water over winter.

FEEDING

Avoid heavy feeding of healthy plants. Check light, moisture, and drainage before treating weak growth with fertilizer. Use a soil test to guide any needed nutrients, apply shrub fertilizer in spring at the label rate, and water afterward. Keep concentrated fertilizer away from stems.

SEASONAL CARE

Flowers form on new growth. If shaping is needed, prune in late winter or early spring before vigorous growth begins. Remove dead or damaged branches selectively; regular hard cutting is unnecessary. Preserve a tree-form plant's trunk and crown rather than cutting it back like an overgrown shrub.

HELPFUL TIPS

Rose of Sharon leafs out late in spring, so give bare branches time before declaring them dead. Remove unwanted seedlings where fertile cultivars self-sow. This woody shrub has different care from tropical hibiscus and herbaceous rose mallow; keep their pruning and winter instructions separate.