For the joy of gardening!
Estabrook's

ZEBRINA MALLOW CARE

LIGHT

Zebrina mallow (Malva sylvestris) flowers best in full sun. Give it a position with airflow and some shelter from strong winds. Its pale flowers have dark veins, and the upright stems suit a cottage-style border or a large, stable seasonal container.

WATER

Water thoroughly when the soil begins to dry, particularly during establishment and extended flowering. Let excess water drain away. Do not leave roots continually saturated. Water at the soil rather than repeatedly wetting the leaves, and check containers more often during hot or windy weather.

SOIL & PLANTING

Use moderately fertile, well-drained soil and plant at the nursery level. Allow space for a branching plant that may become several feet tall. Add support early if the site is windy or growth becomes floppy. Avoid crowding the leaves against neighboring plants.

FEEDING

Feed lightly only when needed. Rich soil and repeated high-nitrogen feeding can encourage tall, soft growth that needs extra support. Follow the fertilizer label for flowering plants. If performance declines, first check light, moisture, and foliage health rather than immediately increasing the fertilizer rate.

SEASONAL CARE

Remove faded flowers to limit unwanted seedlings if desired. Clear diseased leaves and dead stems rather than leaving infected debris around the crown. Rust can persist on old material. This plant may behave as an annual, biennial, or short-lived perennial; individual plants may not form a long-lived clump.

HELPFUL TIPS

In Maine, Zebrina is often grown for seasonal color, although it can sometimes persist or self-seed. Seedlings may vary from the parent. Inspect for rusty leaf spots and aphids, and avoid overhead watering and dense planting when foliage problems develop.