ALPINE CRANESBILL CARE

LIGHT

Alpine cranesbill, including Geranium cinereum Ballerina, is a compact perennial suited to rock gardens, troughs and sunny edging. Choose full sun or a bright position with some light shade. Avoid heavy shade and crowding by vigorous neighbors that can cover its low foliage.

WATER

Water new plants carefully until rooted, keeping moisture moderate. Thereafter, water during dry spells without leaving the roots saturated. In troughs and pots, check the mix below the surface before watering. Drainage holes must remain open and pots should not stand in water.

SOIL & PLANTING

Excellent drainage is the priority. Use a well-drained garden site or a suitable gritty container mix. Plant at nursery depth and leave the crown clear of heavy, wet mulch. In dense clay, use a raised rock garden or container rather than a low spot that stays wet.

FEEDING

Avoid heavy feeding or large additions of rich compost. If soil is deficient, use a light fertilizer application at the labeled rate. Container plants may need occasional modest feeding during growth. Excess feeding can encourage soft growth in a plant valued for its compact habit.

SEASONAL CARE

Trim finished flower stems and remove damaged leaves gently to keep the mound tidy. Do not shear away healthy foliage unnecessarily. Remove winter-damaged growth as spring shoots appear. Divide only when needed, taking care with the small crown and watering divisions until established.

HELPFUL TIPS

Keep fallen leaves and spreading groundcovers from smothering the plant. Winter wet can be more troublesome than ordinary summer dryness, so inspect drainage before cold weather. Check the cultivar's hardiness for your site, especially in exposed containers. This guide is separate from larger border cranesbills and tender bedding geraniums.