



For the joy of gardening!

Estabrook's

CANADIAN HEMLOCK CARE

LIGHT

Canadian or Eastern hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*) grows in sun to partial shade, with shelter from hot, drying exposure. Standard trees become large, while Cole's Prostrate and Pendula have very different forms. Allow room for the exact selection rather than assuming every hemlock is an upright screening tree.

WATER

Keep new roots evenly moist and check during extended dry spells. Hemlock is less tolerant of prolonged drought than many pines. Water the root ball and nearby soil deeply, then allow drainage. Continue checking in dry autumn weather and avoid placing a thirsty new plant on an automatic shallow-sprinkling routine.

SOIL & PLANTING

Use cool, moist, well-drained soil, preferably acidic, and set the root flare near the surface. Mulch lightly over the roots without burying the trunk or low branch bases. Avoid compacted, hot planting strips and sites that remain waterlogged. Protect shallow roots from digging and heavy foot traffic.

FEEDING

Base feeding on a soil test and plant vigor. Extra nitrogen is not a remedy for drought, damaged roots, or insect feeding. Check soil moisture and foliage carefully before fertilizing a weak tree. Follow the labeled rate for any recommended nutrients and keep fertilizer away from the trunk.

SEASONAL CARE

Prune selectively to preserve the cultivar's outline. Remove damaged branches and make only necessary shaping cuts into healthy leafy growth. Keep the trailing framework of prostrate and weeping forms rather than forcing them upright. Check temporary support on a newly planted specimen and remove it when no longer needed.

HELPFUL TIPS

Inspect twig undersides near needle bases for white, cottony hemlock woolly adelgid deposits. If suspected, photograph the growth and seek local identification advice before moving or treating plant material. This guide is for *T. canadensis*, not Douglas-fir or other hemlock species. Browning foliage needs a moisture and pest check.