



ROCKY MOUNTAIN JUNIPER CARE

LIGHT

Rocky Mountain juniper (*Juniperus scopulorum*), including Blue Arrow, Skyrocket, Moonglow, and Wichita Blue, prefers full sun and open air circulation. Avoid humid, shaded, crowded corners. Narrow cultivars still need space for roots and foliage; check mature dimensions rather than assuming every upright selection stays extremely slim.

WATER

Water slowly through the root ball and surrounding soil after planting. Check moisture regularly and water deeply when needed during establishment, allowing excess water to drain. A new root ball must not repeatedly dry out. Avoid frequent shallow sprinkling or keeping roots constantly saturated.

SOIL & PLANTING

Use freely draining soil; dry, sandy, or rocky conditions are suitable once roots establish. Avoid continuously wet soil and low spots that collect runoff. Keep the root flare visible, mulch lightly away from stems, and protect roots from compaction. Do not use constant lawn-style irrigation to maintain an established planting.

FEEDING

Use a soil test to guide fertilizer and pH changes. Healthy junipers often need little feeding. If nutrients are needed, apply a modest spring dose at the fertilizer label rate. Avoid heavy nitrogen and late-season feeding; check drainage or root stress before treating browning as deficiency.

SEASONAL CARE

Preserve the natural shape and prune sparingly. Remove damaged or rubbing growth selectively. If shaping is needed, shorten shoots to a live, leafy side branch; bare interior wood may not refill. Avoid topping upright trees or shearing spreading plants into dense outer shells.

HELPFUL TIPS

Blue Arrow is included here despite sometimes being listed as eastern redcedar in inventory. Blue-gray foliage is normal. Wet conditions, blights, rusts, and mites can cause decline; diagnose tip dieback before treatment. Ice or heavy snow can damage branches, so avoid locations exposed to roof slides and inspect after storms.