



For the joy of gardening!

Estabrook's

BEARDED IRIS CARE

LIGHT

Bearded iris, including German and pallida types, flower best in full sun. Choose an open position with good air movement. Shade encourages leafy growth with fewer flowers. Space plants for their mature spread, allowing room to inspect and divide the rhizomes.

WATER

Water new plants thoroughly, then let the soil dry somewhat between waterings. Established clumps tolerate dry spells. Avoid frequent shallow watering and constantly wet soil, especially around exposed rhizomes. Water the soil rather than repeatedly wetting the foliage.

SOIL & PLANTING

Provide well-drained soil. Set rhizomes at the soil surface with roots spread below; do not bury them deeply. Keep mulch away from the rhizomes. Improve drainage or use a raised bed where water collects. Heavy, wet soil encourages soft rot.

FEEDING

Feed modestly in spring if soil fertility is low, following the fertilizer label. Avoid excess nitrogen, which encourages foliage at the expense of flowers. Do not pile fertilizer or compost directly over rhizomes.

SEASONAL CARE

Remove spent flower stalks after bloom, leaving healthy leaves to replenish the plant. Divide crowded clumps after flowering in mid to late summer. Replant firm, healthy outer rhizomes and discard soft or damaged portions. Remove dead foliage and debris in fall.

HELPFUL TIPS

Watch for iris borers, streaked or damaged leaves, and foul-smelling soft rhizomes. Prompt cleanup helps reduce problems. Rebloom depends on cultivar and climate. Iris is not an edible plant; keep it away from children and pets and wear gloves when handling irritating sap.