



For the joy of gardening!

Estabrook's

EASTERN REDCEDAR CARE

LIGHT

Eastern redcedar (*Juniperus virginiana*) prefers full sun and open space. Cultivars range from narrow upright trees to broad shrubs such as Grey Owl. Match spacing to the cultivar's mature canopy and allow air movement. This guide excludes Blue Arrow, which receives the separate Rocky Mountain juniper guide.

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 well-drained soil with the root flare at or slightly above ground level. Keep any graft above soil. Mulch lightly without covering stems or low branches. Protect roots from compaction and digging, and allow room for the cultivar's mature spread rather than planting too tightly.

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

Female plants may produce blue berry-like cones, while male plants produce pollen. Bronze winter tones and mixed juvenile needle-like and adult scale-like foliage can be normal. Eastern redcedar can host cedar-apple rust, which also affects apples and crabapples. Orange, jelly-like spring galls or persistent dieback deserve diagnosis before pruning extensively or applying treatments.