



For the joy of gardening!

Estabrook's

JAPANESE GARDEN JUNIPER CARE

LIGHT

Japanese garden juniper (*Juniperus procumbens*), including Nana, grows best in full sun. Allow room for a low, broad mound with branches that spread or cascade over an edge. A small nursery plant can eventually cover considerable width; choose space for its mature outline rather than planning repeated hard reduction.

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 low, spreading framework and prune only as needed. Remove damaged shoots and shorten misplaced growth to a leafy side branch. Avoid stripping the center or cutting into bare old wood. Bonsai-style training requires a different maintenance routine; a landscape specimen should not receive repeated drastic trimming to keep it tiny.

HELPFUL TIPS

This is an outdoor conifer, even when sold in a decorative pot or bonsai form. Indoor warmth and low light are unsuitable for long-term care. Containers need drainage, careful moisture checks, and winter root protection. Avoid wet ground and diagnose progressive browning before applying fertilizer or a pesticide.