TUFTED HAIR GRASS CARE

LIGHT

Tufted hair grass (Deschampsia cespitosa) grows in sun to partial shade. A cool position with some afternoon shade helps the foliage stay attractive where summer heat is strong. Its airy summer flowers rise above a dense clump rather than forming a spreading lawn.

WATER

Keep new plants evenly moist while roots establish. This grass appreciates moisture and is useful in sites that stay cooler and damper than a dry border. Check during drought and water deeply as needed. A small nursery root ball can dry before the surrounding soil does.

SOIL & PLANTING

Plant in moisture-retaining garden soil at the original crown level. Allow room for the foliage and flower stems to arch naturally. Goldtau and Pixie Fountain differ in size; use the cultivar label for spacing. Keep a thick layer of mulch away from the growing crown.

FEEDING

Use a modest spring feeding only if soil fertility or weak growth indicates a need. Excess nitrogen can produce soft foliage and stems. Check soil moisture and root competition before adding fertilizer. Follow the label and keep concentrated fertilizer off the crown and leaves.

SEASONAL CARE

Leave the delicate seedheads for winter texture if desired. Remove old foliage in late winter or early spring before fresh growth expands, taking care not to cut the new shoots. Divide an established, crowded clump in spring. Remove unwanted seedlings while they are small.

HELPFUL TIPS

This is a cool-season grass and starts growing earlier than many warm-season ornamental grasses. Do not wait for late spring to tidy it. Wavy hair grass, Deschampsia flexuosa, favors different site conditions and is not covered by these moisture-oriented instructions.