



For the joy of gardening!

Estabrook's

BORDER PENSTEMON

LIGHT

Grow foxglove-type border penstemons in full sun for strong flowering and rich foliage color. Light shade can be tolerated by some selections. Give Husker Red and Midnight Masquerade enough room for their tagged mature size.

WATER

Water deeply during establishment. Thereafter, water through extended dry spells, allowing drainage between soakings. These garden plants tolerate a wider range of ordinary soil moisture than many dryland penstemons, but still dislike waterlogging.

SOIL & PLANTING

Use well-drained garden soil, setting the crown at its original depth. Loam is suitable, and well-drained clay can work. Keep mulch a little away from the central crown and emerging basal shoots.

FEEDING

Use a soil test and plant vigor to guide feeding. A modest spring application of a labeled perennial fertilizer may be useful. Avoid excessive nitrogen that makes tall stems soft and floppy.

SEASONAL CARE

Remove spent flowering stems for a tidy appearance, leaving healthy foliage for the rest of the season. Retain some seedheads if desired, then clear old stems before new spring growth. Seedlings may not match a named cultivar.

HELPFUL TIPS

This group includes *Penstemon digitalis* selections and identified border hybrids such as Midnight Masquerade. Despite the common name foxglove beardtongue, these are *Penstemon*, not *Digitalis*. Other penstemon species and unknown hybrids need their own care review.