



For the joy of gardening!

Estabrook's

FAIRYTRAIL HYDRANGEA CARE

LIGHT

Fairytrail cascade hydrangeas favor part sun and shelter from harsh exposure. Morning shade can protect early-opening buds from spring freeze injury. Give arching stems room to trail naturally. Check the specific cultivar's hardiness and mature size rather than assuming all hydrangeas perform alike.

WATER

Water deeply after planting and maintain moderate, consistent moisture. Check containers and hanging baskets frequently, especially during heat and wind. Soil must drain freely; prolonged soggy soil is harmful. A large plant in a small pot can dry quickly even when nearby ground remains damp.

SOIL & PLANTING

Plant at nursery depth in moisture-retentive, well-drained soil. Choose a sheltered location with room for cascading branches. Mulch the root zone, keeping stems clear. A permanent container planting needs a suitable pot and winter root protection planned for the local climate.

FEEDING

Feed modestly in late winter or early spring when soil is workable, if needed, following label rates. Fresco can flower blue or pink depending on soil chemistry and available aluminum; test before using color-changing products. Bride's white flowers do not become blue by acidifying soil.

SEASONAL CARE

Preserve living stems. These hydrangeas set important flower buds on old wood, so routine pruning is not recommended. In spring, remove only confirmed dead or damaged growth back to live buds. Avoid hard fall or spring cutbacks and routine shearing of the trailing branches.

HELPFUL TIPS

Early flowering makes spring frost protection especially important. Deadheading is optional and should not shorten living stems. This guide covers Fairytrail Bride and Fresco, with their different flower colors. Bracted, panicle and smooth hydrangeas have separate guides and different pruning routines.