



For the joy of gardening!

Estabrook's

GARDEN DELPHINIUM CARE

LIGHT

Garden delphiniums and their upright hybrids prefer full sun and cool growing conditions. Provide shelter from strong wind without restricting air circulation. Light afternoon shade can help in hot sites. Follow the cultivar label for mature size: compact selections still have upright flower spikes, while tall forms need more room.

WATERING

Maintain even moisture during active growth and flowering, particularly while new plants establish. Water deeply at soil level and check the root zone during dry weather. Avoid leaving the crown saturated. Containers need closer monitoring, and good drainage is essential during cool, wet weather.

SOIL & PLANTING

Choose fertile, well-drained soil and set the crown at the original nursery level. Add compost where soil is poor. Install supports early for tall varieties, tying stems loosely as they grow. Compact cultivars may need less support, but heavy flower spikes can still break during storms.

FERTILIZING

These productive flowering plants benefit from adequate nutrients. Use a soil test and a labeled perennial fertilizer during active growth, following directions rather than guessing a strong dose. Water fertilizer in as instructed. Do not add lime automatically; test soil pH before making adjustments.

FLOWERS & PRUNING

After the first flower spikes fade, cut spent stalks back toward healthy basal growth. With continued moisture and suitable conditions, some varieties produce a later flush, but rebloom is not guaranteed. Preserve healthy leaves to support recovery. Check ties and supports as the remaining stems grow.

SEASONAL CARE

Cut dead stems after the season and remove diseased debris. Watch for slugs on emerging shoots, aphids, mildew, leaf spots and crown rot. Some delphiniums are short-lived even with good care. All parts are harmful if eaten; wear gloves when handling and prevent children or pets from ingesting plants.