



For the joy of gardening!

Estabrook's

CREEPING JUNIPER CARE

LIGHT

Creeping juniper (*Juniperus horizontalis*) prefers full sun and spreads much farther than it grows tall. Use on an open bank, rock garden, or broad border with room for trailing growth. Cultivars such as Wiltonii, Bar Harbor, Blue Chip, and Prince of Wales differ in spread and foliage color.

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, including lean or sandy ground. Avoid waterlogged clay, low spots, and excessive watering from nearby lawn sprinklers. Keep the root flare visible and mulch lightly around young plants without burying trailing stems. Control perennial weeds before planting, because removing them later from a dense mat is difficult.

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

Let the plant form a natural low carpet. Remove broken, dead, or misplaced shoots with selective cuts to live side growth. Avoid mowing, heavy shearing, and cutting into bare interior stems that may remain empty. Keep pathways clear by choosing suitable spacing and trimming lightly before branches become oversized.

HELPFUL TIPS

Bronze or purple winter tones are normal on some cultivars, including Andorra and Youngstown types. Golden Carpet and Good Vibrations Gold have intentional yellow foliage. This is an ornamental groundcover, not a walkable lawn. Progressive bare patches can involve drainage, tip blight, or mites and should be diagnosed before treatment.