



*For the joy of gardening!*

**Estabrook's**

## GARDEN CRANESBILL CARE

### **LIGHT**

Garden cranesbills are hardy Geranium perennials. Most flower best in full sun to partial shade; a little afternoon shade helps in hot locations. This group includes sanguineum, pratense, himalayense and suitable border hybrids. Check the cultivar label for mature size and hardiness.

### **WATER**

Water new plants regularly through establishment, soaking the root zone rather than sprinkling lightly. Established clumps often tolerate some drought, but moderate moisture supports a good display. Water during prolonged dry spells. Avoid soggy soil and frequent overhead watering late in the day.

### **SOIL & PLANTING**

Plant at nursery depth in well-drained garden soil. Most selections adapt to average soils; do not leave crowns in winter water. Space for mature spread and keep mulch from smothering the crown. Trailing hybrids need room to weave through neighboring plants or spill over an edge.

### **FEEDING**

Repeated feeding is usually unnecessary in reasonably fertile soil. If growth indicates a nutrient deficiency, use a modest fertilizer application at the labeled rate. Too much nitrogen can produce soft, sprawling growth. Container plants need closer monitoring than plants in garden beds.

### **SEASONAL CARE**

After the main flush, trim spent stems or ragged foliage to encourage a fresh mound. Water during dry weather to support regrowth. Keep flowering stems on long-blooming cultivars until they decline. Remove dead foliage after dormancy and divide crowded clumps in spring when needed.

### **HELPFUL TIPS**

Bloom duration varies: not every hardy geranium flowers all summer, and trimming does not guarantee rebloom. Watch for leaf spots, mildew, slugs and crown rot. This guide does not apply to tender zonal or ivy geraniums (Pelargonium), or to woodland, spreading groundcover and alpine cranesbills with separate guides.