



For the joy of gardening!

Estabrook's

FLOWERING QUINCE CARE

LIGHT

Flowering quince (Chaenomeles) flowers best in full sun, though light shade is tolerated. Leave room for the cultivar's mature spread. Place thorny selections away from narrow paths and play areas; some modern Double Take selections are thornless.

WATER

Water thoroughly at planting and check the original root ball regularly during establishment. Maintain moderate moisture in dry weather while allowing excess water to drain. Established shrubs tolerate some drought, but young plants still need direct moisture checks. Avoid frequent shallow sprinkling.

SOIL & PLANTING

Plant at nursery depth in well-drained garden soil. Avoid strongly alkaline soil, which can cause nutrient problems. Mulch around the root zone, leaving stems clear, and allow room for spreading shoots. Do not bury the crown or crowd branches against a wall.

FEEDING

Use a soil test before making amendments. If feeding is needed, apply a modest spring shrub fertilizer at the labeled rate. Heavy nitrogen feeding can encourage leafy growth rather than flowers. Check light, pruning history and soil moisture before treating poor bloom with fertilizer.

SEASONAL CARE

Flowers form on older wood. Shape just after the spring display, removing selected old stems and awkward shoots. Keep pruning light if fruit is desired, since cutting flowering branches also removes developing fruit. Avoid routine late-season shearing that removes future flower buds.

HELPFUL TIPS

Suckers can extend the planting; remove unwanted shoots to maintain its boundary. Fruit production varies: some ornamental cultivars are nonfruiting. Check cultivar size, flower form and thorniness on the label. This guide covers ornamental Chaenomeles, not orchard quince (Cydonia).