



For the joy of gardening!

Estabrook's

PERENNIAL PINCUSHION FLOWER CARE

LIGHT

Perennial pincushion flower (*Scabiosa columbaria*) needs full sun for a strong flowering display. Butterfly Blue and Flutter selections form low mounds with airy flower stems. Choose an open position with room for airflow rather than crowding the foliage beneath taller, shade-producing plants.

WATER

Water thoroughly during establishment and whenever the root zone becomes dry. Allow the soil to drain between waterings. Established plants tolerate some dryness, but a newly planted nursery root ball can dry quickly. Avoid keeping the crown continually wet, especially during cool autumn and winter weather.

SOIL & PLANTING

Use well-drained soil and plant at the nursery crown level. Poor winter drainage is a common problem for small perennial mounds. Do not bury the leaves beneath heavy mulch. In a container, use a freely draining mix and keep drainage holes open throughout the growing season.

FEEDING

Feed lightly if soil fertility or growth indicates a need. Strong nitrogen applications can encourage foliage and weak flower stems. Check sunlight and drainage first if flowering is disappointing. Follow the labeled rate for flowering perennials or containers and water dry roots before applying fertilizer.

SEASONAL CARE

Remove faded flower stems regularly to maintain a long display and a tidy mound. Keep healthy basal foliage in place and clear dead leaves gently. Divide an established clump when it becomes crowded or loses vigor, choosing mild weather and watering divisions while they settle in.

HELPFUL TIPS

This guide is for identified perennial columbaria-type scabiosas, including Butterfly Blue, Pink Mist, and Flutter selections. Annual seed-grown scabiosas and other species can have different lifespans and care. A wet, collapsing crown needs a drainage check rather than more water or fertilizer.