



For the joy of gardening!

Estabrook's

UPRIGHT SPEEDWELL CARE

LIGHT

Upright speedwells, including spicata, longifolia and suitable hybrids, flower best in full sun. Some tolerate light shade, but dense shade reduces flowering and stem strength. Check the cultivar label: short edging selections and tall spikes differ considerably in height and spread.

WATER

Water deeply after planting and maintain moderate moisture while establishing. During hot, dry periods, water the root zone to support flowering. Avoid repeated wilting, especially in taller longifolia types. Do not leave roots saturated, since wet winter soil encourages rot.

SOIL & PLANTING

Use average, well-drained garden soil and plant at nursery depth. Keep the crown clear of heavy mulch. Allow air movement between clumps and provide room for the cultivar's mature width. Containers require drainage holes and regular moisture checks.

FEEDING

A modest spring feeding may help in poor soil. Follow fertilizer rates rather than repeatedly feeding for more flowers. Excess nitrogen can encourage soft growth. Improve light, drainage or watering if these are limiting performance before adding more fertilizer.

SEASONAL CARE

Remove faded flower spikes to encourage a tidy display and possible rebloom. Cut finished stems toward the basal foliage, leaving healthy growth. Keep leaves until they decline, then tidy dead growth in fall or spring. Divide crowded, declining clumps when needed.

HELPFUL TIPS

Flowering time and repeat bloom vary by cultivar. Support tall stems if necessary before they lean. Watch for mildew, leaf spots and root rot. This guide excludes low creeping speedwells and Culver's root, which have separate guides. Check cultivar hardiness for your Maine site, particularly when overwintering exposed containers.