



MOISTURE LOVING CATMINT CARE

LIGHT

Neptune (*Nepeta kubanica*) and Blue Prelude (*Nepeta subsessilis*) are upright border catmints. Grow in sun or light partial shade, with some afternoon protection where heat is intense. Use the cultivar label for mature size and provide room for a leafy clump to develop.

WATER

Keep the root zone evenly, moderately moist during establishment and active growth. These catmints need more reliable moisture than common drought-tolerant garden catmints. Water deeply during dry periods before repeated wilting occurs. Moist soil must still drain freely; do not leave roots in standing water.

SOIL & PLANTING

Plant at nursery depth in moisture-retentive, well-drained garden soil. Improve poor soil across the planting area and avoid a compacted wet pocket. Use a light mulch between plants to conserve moisture, leaving the crown clear. Allow enough spacing for air circulation.

FEEDING

In poor soil, use compost or a modest spring feeding according to the fertilizer label. Avoid excessive nitrogen, which can encourage soft stems. Consistent moisture and suitable light matter more than repeated feeding when a new plant is slow to establish.

SEASONAL CARE

Remove faded flower stems to prolong a tidy display and encourage further bloom where the selection responds. Keep healthy leaves while green. Tidy dead stems in spring, and divide crowded clumps in spring or early fall when necessary. Water divisions carefully until rooted.

HELPFUL TIPS

Do not apply a dry-gravel-garden watering routine to these selections. Watch new growth for slugs and snails, and provide good airflow to reduce mildew. Check cultivar hardiness for your Maine site, especially in exposed containers. Yellowing can signal either drought or poor drainage; check soil before watering.