



For the joy of gardening!

Estabrook's

MOCK ORANGE CARE

LIGHT

Mock orange (*Philadelphus*) grows in full sun to partial shade. Good light encourages flowering. Cultivars differ greatly in size, from compact plants to large arching shrubs. Choose a position that accommodates the labeled mature spread without constant pruning.

WATER

Water thoroughly at planting, then check the original root ball regularly during establishment. Keep soil moderately moist in dry weather. Established plants tolerate some drought, but young shrubs need closer attention. Water slowly at ground level and allow excess moisture to drain.

SOIL & PLANTING

Plant at nursery depth in moist, well-drained garden soil. A wide planting hole encourages roots to spread into the surrounding ground. Mulch the root zone lightly while keeping stem bases clear. Leave space for airflow and the shrub's natural branching habit.

FEEDING

Feed modestly in spring only if needed, using soil-test guidance and fertilizer label rates. Too much nitrogen promotes leafy growth rather than solving poor flowering. Check light exposure, pruning history and water stress before assuming a sparse flower display needs fertilizer.

SEASONAL CARE

The main flower display forms on older wood. Prune just after flowering, removing selected old canes near the base and shortening awkward shoots. Reblooming cultivars, such as Pearls of Perfume, need little pruning; avoid repeated cutting that removes developing later flowers.

HELPFUL TIPS

Fragrance and flower form vary by cultivar. Allow room near a seating area to enjoy the flowers without blocking access. Remove dead or damaged wood as needed. This guide covers landscape *Philadelphus*; other plants called mock orange require separate identification.