



For the joy of gardening!

Estabrook's

MACEDONIAN PINE CARE

LIGHT

Macedonian pine (*Pinus peuce*), including Pacific Blue, prefers good light and a cool garden setting. Leave room for the tree's mature framework rather than treating it as a small foundation shrub. A site with some protection from damaging wind is useful while roots establish.

WATER

Water the original root ball and surrounding soil deeply when they begin to dry. New pines need regular checks through the first growing seasons, including dry autumn weather. Allow drainage between waterings. Do not assume rain has reached a dense root ball beneath the branches.

SOIL & PLANTING

Use moisture-retaining, well-drained soil. Keep the root flare at the surface and mulch over the roots without covering the trunk. This mountain pine appreciates a reliable moisture supply more than a permanently hot, dry planting pocket. Avoid both stagnant soil and a cramped root area beside paving.

FEEDING

Feed according to a soil test and plant vigor rather than a strong annual routine. Poor drainage, drought, or an unsuitable site cannot be corrected with extra nitrogen. Follow the label for any recommended application and keep fertilizer away from the trunk and dry, stressed roots.

SEASONAL CARE

Preserve the cultivar's natural framework and remove damaged branches selectively. If size control is needed, lightly shorten soft new spring candles before needles fully expand. Avoid cutting into bare old wood, which may not refill. Do not top the plant or apply intensive bonsai pruning to a landscape specimen.

HELPFUL TIPS

Macedonian pine is distinct from Bosnian pine even though both are sometimes described as Balkan pines. Confirm *P. peuce* on the label. Inspect wind-damaged branches and do not leave an unstable tree tied indefinitely to a stake; support should be checked and removed when the root system is secure.