# METALLICA CRISPA AJUGA CARE

## LIGHT

Metallica Crispa is a compact ajuga grown for its crinkled, metallic-looking foliage and blue flower spikes. Give it sun to partial shade, with shelter from intense afternoon heat in a dry site. Use it where the small rosettes will remain visible among neighboring plants.

## WATER

Keep the soil moderately moist while establishing, allowing excess water to drain. Avoid both prolonged drought and a continually wet crown. Containers and shallow planting pockets need regular checks. Water the soil gently so the leaves do not remain soaked in a dense, poorly ventilated clump.

## SOIL & PLANTING

Plant in fertile, moist, well-drained soil at the nursery crown level. Leave room for short rhizomes and daughter rosettes to expand. Keep mulch away from the crown. Do not bury the plant deeply to anchor it; new roots need air as well as moisture.

## FEEDING

Feed lightly only when growth or a soil test shows a need. Avoid high fertilizer rates that encourage crowded, soft growth. Check drainage and root health before treating weak foliage as a nutrient shortage. Follow the product's rate for small perennials or containers.

## SEASONAL CARE

Remove spent flower spikes carefully without injuring the basal rosettes. Divide established clumps or separate rooted daughter plants when needed, preferably during mild spring or early-fall weather. Water new divisions while they settle in. Check the edge of the planting for unwanted spread.

## HELPFUL TIPS

This guide is for Ajuga pyramidalis Metallica Crispa, with textured foliage and a relatively clumping habit. Keep it separate from vigorous runner-forming carpet ajugas. Wet conditions can cause crown rot, while an extremely dry site can cause dieback; neither problem is solved by extra fertilizer.