

Hardy Geraniums – Cranesbill

Geraniums are known as cranesbills because the shape of the seed pods look like cranes. The seed heads snap open like bird beaks to release the seeds. Range in color from white to deep purple, including pinks, magentas and lavenders. Because they grow close together, they are good at smothering weeds.

Growing Requirements

Grow in almost any soil, as long as the area drains well, in full sun to part shade. Can adapt to short periods of dry conditions. Height: 4" – 24", spread from 6" – 36".

Planting

Plant in an area of well-drained, soil. May require staking in wetter areas as the plants tend to be taller.

Care

Cranesbills benefit from weekly watering during dry periods, but otherwise not much else is needed. Pinching heavily after flowering encourages blooming throughout the summer. In the fall they can be cut almost to the ground for spring flowers..

Pests and Diseases

Spider mites can affect some types. They are susceptible to black root rot, gray mold, powdery mildew, leaf spot, and rust.

Dividing /Propagating

Propagation is by semi-ripe cuttings in summer, by seed or by division in autumn or spring.

Want more information? We're Here to Help!



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