

How to... care for alpine plants

Part of the Pacific Nurseries
'How to...' series

Growing Instructions

Alpine plants traditionally grow at high elevation and above the tree line. They are extremely hardy, as they have been used to thriving in harsh climates. They benefit from being displayed in raised beds or rockeries so their minute detail can be better seen. Different species flower at different times, helping to provide a colourful display throughout the spring and summer.

Where to display your Alpines

Planted in a rockery, spectacular displays can be achieved with the colour and form of the plants complementing the rocks.

They also make good container plants on patios and are good in troughs and raised beds.

Some will even grow well in hanging baskets and in crevices in walls or paving stones.

Types such as Thyme can be planted en masse to create a colourful and scented carpet

How to plant Alpines

Choose a container with drainage holes and put a layer of broken crocks or gravel at the bottom to help with drainage and ensure the roots never sit in water.

We recommend using a planting mix of John Innes no 2 compost and about 30% alpine grit.

Top dress with decorative gravel and place in a sunny location.

Water regularly but not excessively. Keep alpines even drier in winter, but do not allow to dry out.

Feed with a general fertiliser at just 1/4 of the manufacturers recommended strength for other plants in mid spring.

Keep free from weeds, pick off any dead leaves and prune as needed.



Alpines are extremely
hardy plants

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The team at Pacific Nurseries are highly experienced. As plant growers and the supplier of thousands of plants to over 100 garden centres in the region, we are well placed to advise you on any of your gardening questions. Please ask us for any help you need.


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