

ASTERS AT-A-GLANCE



ABOUT

- A fall-blooming perennial
- Feature daisy-like blooms
- Planted from nursery plants or divisions
- Grows in-ground or in containers
- Low-maintenance and easy care
- Frost hardy and cool-weather loving

STATS

- Hundreds of different varieties and hybrids
- Two main types: New York asters and New England asters
- Grows between 2-6 feet tall depending on variety
- Spacing depends on variety
- Blooms range in color from purple, blue, white, pink, red, and orange

REQUIREMENTS

- Location with full sun
- Neutral soil that is well draining and loamy
- Can amend soil with compost if dense

PLANTING TRANSPLANTS

- Plant in the spring
- Choose healthy young plant
- Create hole few inches deeper than root ball and an inch wider; Add compost
- Place plant in hole and backfill
- Water well until established
- Mulch may help retain moisture and keep weeds away

MAINTENANCE

- Needs 1" water every week; Avoid watering overhead
- Fertilize once or twice monthly
- Deadhead spent blooms
- To overwinter, cut foliage back to few inches above soil line after done blooming or first hard frost; Add several inches mulch
- Divide plants every 3-4 years in early spring or after plants are done blooming

ISSUES

- Powdery mildew and rust
- Lace bugs, aphids, slugs & snails

MISC

- Can cut blooms for vase displays; Will keep around a week
- Propagate new plants via divisions



Simple Garden Life

keeping the fun in gardening by keeping it simple!