



Gayfeather (Blazing Star) Planting Guide

About Gayfeather

Commonly used in floral design and referred to as Blazing Star *Liatris*, Gayfeather is an attractive perennial shrub. It's great for bees and butterflies! Gayfeather has a long blossoming season, offering tall spikes of tiny, purple flowers.

When to Plant

Direct Sow outdoors in the fall after the first killing frost. For climates with mild winters, seeds can be sown outdoors after a 12 week cold stratification, and outdoor soil temperatures reach a consistent 65 degrees F.

Where to Plant

Gayfeather thrives in full sun conditions, but it can tolerate a little bit of light shade. Partial shade conditions would not be ideal for Gayfeather, however. It does best in soil of low-to-average richness, that is well-draining as well. Soggy conditions make this variety susceptible to root rot.

How to Plant

Sow seeds onto the surface of the soil, and compress firmly. Do not cover your Gayfeather seeds, as they'll require sunlight to germinate.

Caring for Gayfeather

Once seedlings are 2-3" tall, thin or transplant them to a spacing of 8-12" apart. Once established, Gayfeather is drought tolerant - manual watering is only needed during extended drought periods. After plants have come up, you can mulch around them to decrease any maintenance needs. After a few years, Gayfeather will likely become overcrowded. Dig up your tuber roots, separate them out, and then replant.