



Aubrieta Planting Guide

About Aubrietas

Aubrieta, also called "Rock Cress", is a popular perennial groundcover that's easy to grow and particularly great for rock gardens. These stunning purple flowers cover their lower green foliage almost entirely.

When to Plant

For spring planting, start seeds indoors in late winter, 8-10 weeks before the last frost, when night time temperatures are in the upper 40's or warmer.

Where to Plant

Aubrietas prefer full sun and gritty or sandy, well-drained soil. They can tolerate hot and dry conditions but tend to decline in summer heat south of Zone 6.

How to Plant

Mix seeds with sand and sprinkle over trays/indoor planting containers. Gently press your seeds into the soil. Bottom water or mist when watering, being careful not to dislodge seeds from the soil. Before transplanting, harden off seedlings for 10-14 days in a protected area outside. Transplant, applying a light application of liquid fertilizer and water generously. Aubrieta seedlings should be spaced 6-8" apart, as they will quickly fill in any open space.

Caring for Aubrietas

Water regularly until plants are established, then only water if soil looks dry. Cut back aubrietas after flowering to encourage new growth and maintain a compact form. If plants are struggling to maintain moisture or if the acidity in the soil is too low, apply a light pine needle mulch around the base of your plants. Aubrietas will bloom the second spring after planting and every year after.