

## Tips for Success

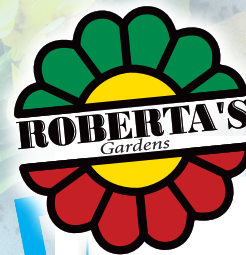
**Water:** Water your plants immediately after taking them out of the box. Give them enough water so that the soil appears damp and water trickles out the bottom of the pot.

**Time to Plant!** Your plants are now ready to be replanted. Follow the planting guide inside for detailed instructions on how to most effectively plant your new plants.

**First Year Maintenance:** For perennials, the first year (or sometimes two) will require additional maintenance. During the first season of growth, even if the plant is known to be drought-tolerant, it is very important to water your plants on a regular basis, meaning up to 3-4 times per week. When plants are in their infancy stage, they need to be watered by their caretaker until they've had a chance to build a strong enough root system to subsist on their own. If you are experiencing severe heat, drought like conditions, or your plants appear consistently droopy, you may need to water your plants almost every day.

**Astilbe:** One of our favorite flowers for the shadier areas around the garden! These showy plants perform great in areas of partial sun, dappled shade, or just about full shade. Try planting them in woodland areas, in a mass setting, along the foundation, near streams or ponds, or towards the front of the border.

**Where Is The Best Place To Grow Astilbe?:** Although somewhat tolerant of full sun, Astilbe is truly a shade lover. It will thrive in partial or full shade. They're perfect for the rock garden, shady border, or in containers. They love moisture, so a good soaking every day or so is recommended. The hybrid forms of this versatile perennial plant are easy to grow and as their feather flowers dry, they're attractive well into the winter.



## Roberta's Gardens PLANTING AND GROWING GUIDE



**Astilbe or False Spirea**  
*Astilbe*

We aren't happy if you aren't happy. If you have any questions regarding your order please call us at **1-765-525-4065** during the hours of 8:30 am and 4:30 pm EST.

You can email questions to us at: [customerservice@robertasinc.com](mailto:customerservice@robertasinc.com).

If your bulbs, cuttings, etc. do not sprout, or your plant dies within one year from the date of shipment, we will send you a replacement free of charge. We cannot accept responsibility for losses due to extreme weather or neglect. Simply call us at the above toll tree number or fill out the plant replacement form on our website at [RobertasUniqueGardens.com](http://RobertasUniqueGardens.com).

Roberta's will replace it with a similar or comparable plant at no charge. If your replacement is not available or it is too late in the season to ship, it will ship the following year.



**Roberta's Unique Gardens**

P.O. Box 368, Waldron, IN 46182

Monday – Friday 8:30AM – 4:30PM EST

**RobertasUniqueGardens.com**

 @robertasgardens  Roberta's Unique Gardens

*Perennials*

## Quick Reference

 **Plant Type:** Perennial

 **Light/Sun:** Partial Sun to Partial Shade

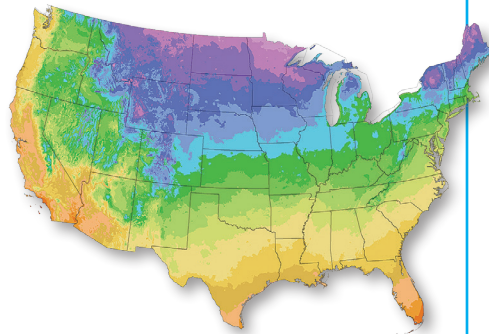
 **Mature Height:** 12-18"

 **Mature Spread:** 16-20"

 **Bloom Time:** Summer, by second season

 **USDA Hardiness Zones:** 4 to 8

9a to 11  7a  6a  5a   
8a to 8b  6b  5bs to 5bn  3a to 4b   
7b 



## Plant Caretaking

**Upon Arrival:** Please take rhizomes out of their packaging and box immediately and remove any shipping materials from around the plants. You may store them in a cool, dry location for up to two weeks if they cannot be planted right away. If doing this then please keep them in the plastic bag.

**Planting Depth & Spacing:** Dig a deep enough hole so that the entire rhizome easily fits into the hole with the eyes about 1/2" beneath the surface of the soil. Space plants about 2' away from one another in the garden.

**Potted Plants:** Make sure your container has holes to allow excess water to drain. Pot one plant in a 12-15" container, or you may plant multiple plants in a larger container.

**Soil Preparation:** If your soil is clayish, amend it with standard potting mix to improve drainage.

**Watering:** They prefer a moist soil bed compared to overly dry soil conditions. To determine if your plant needs water, put your finger in the top of the soil and if the top inch is dry, it is time to water. It is important to make sure young plants do not experience long periods of dryness. However, they also do not like soggy conditions. Especially during the first season, it is important that your plants stay moist. Once plants are established, by the second or third season, they will not require as much water.

**Fertilizer:** Use Roberta's Bounty a couple weeks after planting once you see green growth sprouting.

**Pet Considerations:** Ensure your pets do not consume plants.

**Pruning:** You may cut away spent flowers to encourage a better appearance on your plants, although this will not prolong the bloom season.

## Planting Steps

**Step 1** Remove rhizomes from their box and take off other packing materials. Open your box outside or somewhere you don't mind getting messy.

**Step 2** Choose a site or container that will allow the Astilbe to get partial sun and partial shade. Morning sun and afternoon shade is generally the best.

**Step 3** Dig a hole deep enough so that the eyes of the rhizome will be about 1/2" beneath the surface of the soil. Spread the roots out in the hole. Gently pack soil onto the rhizome, ensuring all roots are completely covered.

**Step 4** Water your newly planted rhizome well and make sure your Astilbe stay moist at all times as they begin to situate themselves in their new home.

**Step 5** Transplant into the garden or containers as soon as evening temperatures stay above 40F. Dig holes the width of the root ball and deep enough so that the original top of the soil is flush with the new soil line. Water the new location before and after planting your plant. This will help the young roots stay hydrated. Once you've placed your plant in the hole, fill in the rest of the hole with extra soil or potting mix, ensuring the entire root system is covered with soil.

