



## How to Deadhead Hydrangeas the Right Way

1. 🕒 **Wait for blooms to fade** - Only begin deadheading once the flowers turn brown or papery.
2. 🔍 **Identify healthy buds** - Follow the stem down and find the first strong pair of green buds.
3. ✂️ **Make a clean cut** - Cut about 0.5–1 cm above the bud pair using sterilised secateurs.
4. 📦 **Skip autumn cuts** - On old wood varieties, leave the faded heads over winter to protect against frost.
5. 🧼 **Clean your tools** - Always disinfect secateurs before and after use to prevent disease spread.
6. 🧠 **Know your variety** - New wood types like *paniculata* can be deadheaded freely. Old wood types like *macrophylla* need gentler timing!

💡 Tip: For mopheads and oakleaf hydrangeas, deadhead in early spring - not autumn - to protect next year's blooms!

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