



How to Grow and Care for Hydrangea macrophylla 'Nikko Blue'

1. 📍 **Choose the right location:** Select a site with morning sun and afternoon shade. Avoid full sun to prevent leaf scorch.
2. 🌱 **Prepare the soil:** Enrich the planting area with organic matter. Ensure the soil is moist, well-draining, and slightly acidic.
3. 💧 **Pre-soak the root ball:** Submerge the potted plant in water until no more air bubbles rise. This reduces transplant shock.
4. 🌿 **Plant correctly:** Dig a hole twice as wide as the root ball. Set the plant level with the ground and firm the soil around it.
5. 🌿 **Mulch and water:** Apply mulch around the base and water thoroughly. Keep soil evenly moist, especially in dry weather.
6. 🧪 **Adjust soil pH (optional):** Add aluminium sulphate for blue blooms or lime for pink, depending on desired flower colour.
7. ✂️ **Prune after flowering:** Only prune in spring after the last frost. Remove dead wood and shape lightly, as it blooms on old wood.
8. 🛡️ **Protect in winter:** In colder zones, add mulch and wind protection to prevent bud damage.