

How to Care for a GILES VAN HEES SPEEDWELL Plant Veronica 'Giles van Hees

SELECT SITE:

Light Requirements: Full Sun (6+ hrs/day)

This plant will grow larger; Space 6 in. away from other plants or structures.

Tolerates a wide range of average, consistently moist yet well-drained, garden soil. Root rot may occur in wet, poorly drained soils.

Versatile Plant for: Rock gardens, border fronts, sunny areas.

Ideal USDA Plant Hardiness Zones: 4,5,6,7,8

PLANT PREP:

Open box upon arrival, remove packing materials to let the plant "breathe". Remove plastic bag, tape, and newspaper. Water well. There are drainage holes in the bottom of the pot so do this outside where the extra water will drain away.

HOLE PREP:

Dig saucer shaped hole. The depth is determined by measuring the height of the roots from root flare to bottom. The width is 2-3 times the root ball diameter. Using these calculations, the ideal hole for the new bush will be approximately 6" tall by 12" wide.

PLANTING:

Put garden soil in a wheelbarrow or on a tarp. Mix the garden soil with equal amounts of mulch, peat moss, and potting soil. Place plant in hole and adjust for aesthetics. Hold in place while adding more soil, until the hole is completely filled. Push soil down until firm. Do not plant the shrub deeper than it has already been growing. Water well immediately after planting. Mulch evenly to a depth of 2-3 inches being sure to stay at least 4" away from its trunk.

FUTURE MAINTENANCE:

Fertilize sparingly. Plants grown in overly rich soils will produce weak, floppy growth.

Remove spent flower spikes to encourage additional bloom. Cut back to basal growth after flowering, if desired.