

Lamb's Ears

Lamb's Ears has lovely grey green furry foliage and interesting flower spikes. Every time one see it you just want to reach out and touch those furry leaves. What a great plant for just about any yard. It seems to grow really well in our areas. Though rains and frost make them unsightly, they seem to rebound pretty well. I put them in my sunnier spots where the drainage is good and they take off.



Size: 1 ½ foot tall

Exposure: Full sun, partial shade.

How to Plant: Plant in full sun to partial shade. They can take full shade if it is open shade as in under large tall trees. Plant in well drained soil. Plants die out in the center so divide frequently.

Fertilize: Fertilize sparingly, perhaps once or twice a year.

Propagation: Can be propagated by runners off the mother plant. Simply take a plantlet in early spring or late fall and plant spacing about 2 ft. apart. Keep well watered until established.

Water needs: Water regularly but this plant can take some drought. Do not over water.

Soil: Not too fussy about soil type but well drained soil is best, will not tolerate soggy soil.

Snapshot: Lamb's Ears or Stachys are a member of the mint family and have they typical square stems. Most have an interesting furry type leaf or some have a rough textured leaf. There are several varieties of Lamb's Ears. The most common seems to be "Contess Helen von Stein" which has larger leaves and very tall flower spikes. There is silver carpet which has no flower spikes. Lamb's Ears make an excellent low maintenance ground cover and some cut the flower spikes as they detract from the foliage. However, flower spikes do attract bees. They are a beautiful addition to any garden and especially look good when planted next to dark green foliage. Great for along pathways and mass planting.

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