

How to Grow Bachelor Button



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Todd's Seeds, 46495,
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Bachelor buttons (*Centaurea cyanus*) offer many uses in the landscape, as this European native naturalizes easily in most parts of the U.S. Attractive flowers, now in shades of red, white and pink are available in addition to the traditional blue color of bachelor button flowers. Combine red, white and blue varieties for a patriotic display on the fourth of July. Plant bachelor button flowers in borders, rock gardens and sunny areas where they can spread and naturalize.



Frilly, showy flowers grow on multi-branching stems, which may reach two to three feet. Bachelor button flowers are reseeding annuals and blooms may be single or double. Once planted, you will be growing bachelor buttons year after year as the reseed freely.

- **Light:** Part Sun, Sun
- **Type:** Annual
- **Height:** 1 to 3 feet
- **Width:** 1-2 feet wide
- **Flower Color:** Blue, Pink, White
- **Seasonal Features:** Spring Bloom, Summer Bloom
- **Special Features:** Cut Flowers, Good for Containers, Low Maintenance





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Planting Instructions

Step 1

Choose a well-draining site in full sun for your bachelor buttons. Cultivate the soil several inches deep and incorporate organic material such as compost, peat moss or well-rotted manure.

Step 2

Sow bachelor button seeds directly into your prepared site. Space them about 2 to 4 inches apart and cover with $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch soil. Bachelor buttons need darkness for successful germination.

Step 3

Water the seeds thoroughly, moistening the soil evenly. Don't let the seed bed dry out while bachelor buttons are germinating, but don't allow the soil to become soggy or waterlogged, either. Seeds will germinate in about seven to 15 days.

Step 4

Continue to water until seedlings sprout and develop several true leaves. Once established, they'll be drought tolerant and probably won't require anymore watering from you. Thin them to about 18 inches apart.

Step 5

Feed bachelor buttons a good all-purpose fertilizer monthly throughout the growing season. Follow the packaging instructions carefully.

Step 6

Water established bachelor button plants only if leaves or blooms appear wilted.