



## Cornflower / Batchelors Buttons

Get more than just a simple flower, cornflower's offer a wide range of colors for a carefree garden and landscape!

### PREPARING A PLACE FOR, AND PLANTING:

In an area that receives full sun, clear a garden patch large enough for the amount of seeds to be planted. Till the soil several inches deep while adding plenty of compost for added drainage and nutrition for the seedlings and plants. Once this is done rake the soil flat, making sure there are no large bumps and wads of compacted soil, as cornflowers do best in well-draining unobstructed soil.

Randomly scatter, or space the seeds 2 to 4 inches apart. Water well and keep the soil from drying out until the seedlings get several true leaves. Once established, cornflowers are very drought tolerant and can withstand little to no additional watering even in hot, dry conditions. An easy way to tell that cornflowers need water is when their leaves and flower heads seem wilted.

### TRANSPLANTING:

Making sure to get the full taproot and a goodly amount of soil simply replant the cornflowers in full sun and water in very well. The plants may need to be watered a couple of times in a 2 to 3 day period until they recover from the shock.

### FERTILIZING:

Probably not necessary as too much nitrogen will cause excess foliage growth and jeopardize the pretty, pert blooms. If one feels the need to fertilize try using a water soluble solution geared towards blooming plants.

#### TRIMMING FOR BUSHIER GROWTH:

The taller the plant; the more likely it is to topple under the weight of rain and heavy blooms. To keep cornflowers from getting too leggy, simply pinch them back when they are young or cut them back to around 6-10 inches when they are older. Remember though, cornflowers are annuals that need to bloom and go to seed to be able to come back the following year. If cut back too late in the season a person may not get the seed producing blooms needed for next year's crops. Make sure the plants have a few weeks recover in order to send out new blooms to produce seeds before being trimmed.

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