



# ORNAMENTAL CABBAGE & KALE



## FACTS

- Grow Zone: 2 - 9
- Family: Brassicaceae (Formerly Cruciferae)
- Genus: Brassica
- Species: Oleracea
- Variation: Acephala
- Native To: Mediterranean Europe, Asia Minor
- Mature Height: 1' - 4'
- Mature Width: 1' - 3'
- Type: Biennial cruciferous vegetable
- Growth Habit: Dense rosette mounds
- Foliage: Ornate frilly or ruffled leaves in a rosette; green, white, pink, purple, or red
- Flowers: Yellow or white inflorescence flowers with four petals
- Propagation: Seeds

### Why We Love Ornamental Cabbage & Kale:

*Brassica oleracea* started as a wild leafy plant on seaside cliffs, and 5000 years later it has been cultivated into a huge variety of shapes, sizes and colors. Ornamental cabbages & kale are the most hardy variety, perfect for decorating our winter gardens and containers. They love the cold!

## LIGHT

Full sun to partial sun.  
Thrives in bright light in cool weather.

Can burn or wilt in hot weather without afternoon shade.

## WATER

Prefers even moisture, water when soil is half dry, or dry to the touch 1 - 2 inches down.

Allow adequate drainage.

## SOIL

Fertile, well draining, cool soil.

Does best with a light fertilizer after transplanting outdoors.

*FYI: Most closely resembles original wild cabbage. Best as ornamental annuals: these are very bitter to the taste. Will shoot up flower stalks in their second year and produce less attractive foliage.*

## INTERESTING VARIETIES:

- *B. oleracea* var. *acephala* 'Kamome'
- *B. oleracea* var. *acephala* 'Chidori'
- *B. oleracea* var. *acephala* 'Peacock'
- *B. oleracea* var. *acephala* 'Osaka'
- *B. oleracea* var. *acephala* 'Pigeon'
- *B. oleracea* var. *acephala* 'Crane Bicolor'
- *B. oleracea* var. *acephala* 'Blue Knight'

### Call & visit for more tips:

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