## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### HOW MUCH PRUNING IS NEEDED FOR BUGLOSS?

The only pruning needed is a light pruning during the growing season to remove poor, weak stems or to maintain a desirable shape and size.

**IS BUGLOSS EVERGREEN OR DECIDUOUS?** It is deciduous and will drop its leaves in late autumn.

#### ARE THEY DEER RESISTANT?

Yes. Remember, we say deer 'resistant' and not deer 'proof'. Younger plants may be at greater risk of being eaten and younger deer may eat anything in sight as they learn what they do and do not like.

#### SHOULD I CUT IT BACK IN THE FALL?

No. This plant benefits more from allowing the brown leaves to protect the crown of the plant. In the springtime, you can clear away the old leaves.

#### DOES MULCHING PLAY A ROLE?

Many plants benefit from mulching, especially those that grow in the hot sun which dries out the soil quickly. Spread a 2 or 3 inch layer of some organic material such as dried grass clippings, wood chips, or chopped leaves on the soil around the salvia plants to discourage weeds, help the soil retain moisture and keep the roots cool. As it decomposes, mulch also contributes organic material and the beneficial organisms that live in it to the soil to improve it.

WHAT ARE SOME COMPANIOMNS TO FERNS?

Ferns, Pulmonarias, Hellebores, Campanula, Aquilegia, Hostas, Astilbe, and Dicentra all make wonderful companion plants.

## FIRST THINGS FIRST ...

When your plant arrives from Roberta's, remove from the shipping box immediately.

Keep bare roots inside packing material until ready to plant into ground or container. Put in a cool, protected area and plant as soon as possible.

For extended storage time, place in refrigerator for up to 3 weeks.

When ready to plant, do the job as early in the day as possible to avoid extreme soil temperatures that prevent proper water uptake from the roots. Water them in well and whisper a few words of wisdom.

### Thank you for your order!

Take your gardening experience to new heights by visiting Roberta's Unique Gardens in our brand shop on QVC.com. Our goal is to enhance your gardening enjoyment by providing you with top quality, leading edge perennials and annuals that are suitable for your garden and home with the best service imaginable.

Roberta's is a 4th generation family owned business and has been one of the leading commercial exhibitors at flower and garden shows for over 50 years in the U.S and abroad. We search the globe to find easy-to-grow plants that are unique in themselves or their variety making them nearly impossible to find elsewhere. Our passion and commitment continually asks the question, "What makes a better, unsurpassed, and more beautiful flower to behold?"

Working with growers and breeders from all over the world, Roberta's is able to bring you hard-to-find plants and new species that will be sweethearts for years to come. Our alliance with QVC since the late 1990's will continue to transform your garden into the garden of your dreams. "Partnering with QVC, we share a common vision that puts the customer at the top of the list!"

Thank you for bringing us into your home,

Eric, Kevin, and Koort Wallien



1-800-428-9726

Monday–Friday 8:30 am–4:30 pm EST

### Thank you

For bringing us into your home

#### www.robertasinc.com

### **ROBERTA'S GARDENS**



Siberian bugloss (Brunnera macrophlla blue)

### QUICK REFERENCE PLANTING GUIDE

LIGHT/SUN EXPOSURE:	Part Sun to Shade
USDA HARDINESS ZONES:	3 to 8
PLANTING DISTANCE:	18-20 inches
MATURE HEIGHT/SPREAD:	12-16 inches tall
	12-18 inches wide
BLOOM TIME:	Mid Spring
PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS:	Remove plastic bag and/or sleeve from around bare-roots. Transplant into the
(soil preparation, depth, which end is up, etc.)	garden as soon as the evening temperatures stay above 40F. Dig holes twice the width of the root ball and about

# PLANTING GUIDE

Keep inside packing material until ready to plant into ground or container. Put in a cool, protected area and plant as soon as possible. For extended storage time, place in refrigerator for up to 3 weeks.

2 STEP Transplant into the garden as soon as evening temperatures stay above 40F. Your hole should be deep enough to accommodate the roots and only 1 to 2 inches more covering the top. Fill in the hole with soil and water thoroughly. Plants prefer full sun to half day of sun.

Rather than in the garden you may re-pot into large containers. Re pot the plants into at least 12 inch pots separately or together inside one larger container.



Planted now they will produce blue flowers in mid spring. The flowers resemble those of Forget Me Nots.

## CONTINUING CARE

### SHELF LIFE

Plant into garden or larger pots and place outside immediately after the night temperatures stay above 40 degrees.

#### PLANT PREPARATION

Remove plastic bag and sleeve from around bare-roots. If you can not plant it into garden or larger pot within a few days, make sure it stays in a cool, dry area until it is able to be planted.

#### SOIL

Grow in fertile, moist or wet soil. Prefers cool soil with an organic, rich soil mixture containing good drainage.

#### POTTED PLANTS

Rather than in the garden you may re-pot into large containers. Repot the plants into at least 12 inch pots separately or together inside one larger container.

#### GARDEN PREPARATION

They do best in partial shade away from direct sunlight.

#### PLANTING DISTANCE

Space out about 18-20 inches apart.

#### PLANTING HEIGHT AND WIDTH

These grow about 12-16 inches tall and 12-18 inches wide.

#### WATER

Water upon planting and a couple times a week all summer long. Water regularly if rain is not sufficient as they like it moist. They prefer moist, cool soil conditions.

#### FERTILIZER

They respond to feeding with a high bloom fertilizer like Flower Magic plant food (M7503). Once a month is sufficient. Also, a micronutrient like Spray and Flourish (M26045) is very beneficial.

#### TEMPERATURE ZONES 3 to 8

When nights stay above 40 degrees, place your plants outside and leave them there. They can withstand winter temperatures to minus 30F.

#### LIGHTING

In the growing season, part to full shade is recommended. It thrives in part sun (morning only) or a mostly shaded area with moist and cool soil conditions. Once established, it can tolerate brief periods of dry conditions, but may stop growing if exposed to these conditions for an extended amount of time.

## Additional Reference

#### PRUNING

You can lightly prune these throughout the growing season to maintain desirable shape and size.

#### BLOOMING

Under normal conditions, Brunnera will produce small blue flowers in mid spring. These flowers closely resemble those of Forget-Me-Nots. This is a deciduous fern however and it will drop its leaves with the first frost.

#### WINTER DORMANCY

Avoid pruning back after the first heavy frost as the leaves protects the crown of this plant. In the spring, cut back old leaves. For a very large area of Brunnera, you can cut them down to a few inches above the ground in the early springtime.

#### PROPAGATION

Bugloss can be divided by separating the clumps in the spring or fall after 3-4 seasons.



Prized little blue flowers