

# Alyssum

## “Royal Carpet”

Alyssum Royal Carpet is an easy-to-grow annual plant that thrives in full sun to partial shade, preferring well-draining soil. It's ideal for flower beds, containers, and hanging baskets. Low-growing alyssum is an excellent companion plant for tomatoes as it attracts parasitic wasps that help control tomato hornworm.

**Light:** Full sun to partial shade is best.

- **Soil:** Average to fertile, well-draining soil is recommended.
- **Watering:** Water regularly, especially when seedlings are young, and keep the soil moist until germination. Water deeply and sparingly, allowing the soil to dry out slightly between waterings, especially in partial shade.
- **Spacing:** Space plants 6-8 inches apart.
- **Germination:** Germination typically occurs within 7-10 days at soil temperatures between 65-75°F (18-24°C).
- **Maintenance:**
  - **Fertilizing:** Apply a liquid fertilizer every 3-4 weeks or use a time-release fertilizer at planting time.
  - **Pruning:** Trim back plants after they bloom to encourage further blooms.
- **Problems:** Root rot can occur if the soil is consistently wet, so ensure good drainage. Downy mildew may also occur in wet weather.
- **Uses:** Alyssum Royal Carpet is a great choice for flower beds, containers, rock gardens, borders, and hanging baskets. It also attracts beneficial insects like pollinators.
- **Cold Hardiness:** Alyssum is cold hardy and can tolerate temperatures below 25°F.
- **Reseeding:** Alyssum is a heavy reseeder, meaning it will return each year. If you want it to re-seed, limit mulch depth and keep preemergents (ie, Preen) away from the area where seeds will germinate.