

Nepeta - Growing Guide

Growing Nepeta

Catmint, Catnip

Nepeta are all clump forming perennials which grow in any well drained soil in sun or shade. They all have aromatic leaves and are, therefore, often a key feature in a scented or herb garden. They are however more commonly grown in a mixed or herbaceous border. Some species are attractive to cats and most are well attended by bees. The particular care requirements of different species are described below.

Like all fully hardy clump forming perennials they are most easily divided in spring or autumn when they are dormant but softwood cuttings root easily in early summer.

N. faasseni (*mussinii*) is a dwarfish catmint growing and spreading to around 18in. It has wrinkled silver-grey leaves and pale lavender-blue flowers with darker purple spots. These plants are best trimmed after flowering to keep them in shape and to encourage a second set of flowers.



Nepeta faasseni



Nepeta faasseni and
Echinacea 'Green Jewel'



Nepeta racemosa
'Snowflake'



Nepeta racemosa
'Snowflake'



Nepeta racemosa
'Walker's Low'



Nepeta racemosa
'Walker's Low'



Nepeta racemosa
'Walker's Low'



Nepeta racemosa
'Walker's Low'

N. 'Six Hills Giant' grows to around 3ft and will probably need plant support:



Nepeta 'Six Hills Giant'



Nepeta 'Six Hills Giant'



Nepeta subsessillis



Nepeta subsessillis

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