

We hope you enjoy your new plants!

How to Care for a **BLACK KNIGHT BUTTERFLY BUSH Shrub** *Buddleia davidii* 'Black Knight

SELECT SITE:

Light Requirements: Full Sun – must have 6-8 hrs of direct sunlight each day to thrive and bloom prolifically

This shrub will grow larger; space 4 ft. away from other plants or structures.

Easy to grow in almost any soil, provide regular water during first growing season.

Focal Point/Color Accent: Anywhere the blooms will be easily enjoyed!

Ideal for outdoor planting in USDA Plant Hardiness Zones: 5,6,7,8,9

PLANT PREP: Open box upon arrival, remove packing materials to let the plant “breathe”. Remove tape and newspaper. Water well. There are drainage holes in the bottom of the pot so do this outside where the extra water will drain away.

HOLE PREP: Dig saucer shaped hole. The depth is determined by measuring the height of the roots from root flare to bottom. The width is 2-3 times the root ball diameter. Using these calculations, the ideal hole for the new bush will be approximately 10” tall by 24” wide. To plant in a container, select a pretty pot that is at least 12” in diameter.

PLANTING: Place plant in hole and adjust for aesthetics. Hold in place while adding more soil, until the hole is completely filled. Push soil down until firm. Do not plant the shrub deeper than it has already been growing. Water well immediately after planting. Mulch evenly to a depth of 2-3 inches being sure to stay at least 4” away from its trunk.

FUTURE MAINTENANCE:

It is normal for the leaves to dry & drop off in autumn, the plant is dormant with bare branches during winter, new leaves will grow in springtime.

Remove faded flower heads to encourage formation of additional blooms. Fertilize in spring when new growth begins by applying 2 Tbsp. of an all-purpose slow release fertilizer upon the ground in a band around the shrub at least 6 in. away from its stem.

Water regularly throughout the first year, usually 1 in. per week in the form of rainfall or artificial irrigation. 1 in. = a 5-gal. bucket full

Prune back hard to a 6-12 in. height in early spring before growth begins by shaping as desired and cutting out any dead or damaged canes first by making a 45-deg cut above a growth node or bud.