



# 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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