

Osmanthus Tea Olive

Planting Location

Osmanthus Tea Olive needs a location in full sun or partial shade. They have a more dense growth habit in full sun than in shade. Variegated types tend to bleach out in full sun, so give them a little afternoon shade.

Planting and Watering

The shrubs tolerate most acid to neutral soils and need good drainage. Plant them 4 to 6 feet apart to form a hedge or screen. Water newly planted Osmanthus Tea Olive regularly until the shrub is established and begins to grow. After the first season, you only need to irrigate it during prolonged dry spells.

Fertilize

Fertilize with a general-purpose fertilizer every year or two in fall. Spread the fertilizer over the root zone and water it in. You can also use a layer of compost as a slow-release fertilizer.

Pruning

Osmanthus Tea Olive doesn't need a lot of pruning. When you prune, remove branches selectively rather than shearing. Severe pruning can prevent the shrub from blooming for several years. You can remove the lower lateral branches to form a small, multi-trunked tree.