How to Propagate Scabiosa

This step by step guide shows how to propagate Scabiosa easily creating more plants with their beautiful pincushion flowers. These hardy plants loved by butterflies are perfect for rockeries and borders.

Scabiosa plants are a part of the honeysuckle family and are also known as Knautia and Succia. Their common names include Pigeon’s Scabious, Field Scabious, Marsh Daisy and Shining Scabious.

They have low growing foliage with pincushion like flowers on tall stems ranging in color from pink to purple. Some varieties are annuals but most plants for the home garden are perennial.

Propagation of Scabiosa is through root division. This plant form clumps as it grows which are easy to divide and create more plants.

Location

Scabiosa will grow in full sun to part shade in a wide variety of soil types and conditions. Heavy clay soils will need to be improved prior to planting otherwise no special soil treatment is needed.

Tools and Materials Needed

Trowel
Mulch

Instructions

First prepare the new position by digging a hole with your trowel 4 inches (10cm) in diameter and 4 to 6 inches (10 to 15cm) deep. Water the new hole and the existing plant well.

Separate the leaves of the Scabiosa. You will see the plant has formed clumps which can be easily separated.

Grab the base of one clump then gently pull upwards until it is released from the ground. You will see it has its own root system.

Plant directly into the new prepared hole so the base of the leaves is at soil level. Firm down the soil then mulch and water in well. Keep moist for the first two weeks until it settles in.

Tip

As the plant grows more clumps will form. This is a great plant to create a mass planting along a border without having to spend any money other than the original purchase.

Place a clump in an attractive pot for a budget friendly present your friends will love.