

## Autumn Royalty Encore Azalea (*Rhododendron* 'Conlec')

Autumn royalty encore azalea shrubs are a repeat blooming azalea that has purple flowers. The dark green, evergreen foliage makes a great backdrop for the purple flowers. Autumn Royalty Azalea is a great addition to any garden due to its long bloom period. Autumn Royalty Azalea shrubs bloom in the spring, summer and again in the fall.



**Plant Care:** Encore azaleas grow best in full sun or partial shade (at least 2 hours of direct sun per day). Once established, they tolerate dry spells, but do not forget to water them during an extended drought.

**Watering:** Avoid over watering. During the first year and in the summer, give your Encore Azaleas plenty of water. Soak the soil two inches deep twice per week. In extreme heat and drought, three times per week might be helpful. After your Encore Azaleas' first year, they'll need less water. Once established, they're quite drought tolerant.

**Fertilizing:** Azaleas have low nutritional requirements compared to other shrubs. A soil amended with organic matter prior to planting followed by a mulch of compost, shredded leaves, pine straw or other organic material will usually provide sufficient nutrients for adequate growth. If you do fertilize, the best time is right after spring bloom. Apply a complete, extended-release, acid-forming, azalea fertilizer. Look for a fertilizer with nutrients in a ratio close to 2-1-1, such as a 10-5-4 and follow the directions on the packaging. Do not fertilize after August 1st as it may leave the plant vulnerable to winter damage.

### References:

<https://www.encoreazalea.com>