



# Does the Wave Petunia Need to Be Deheaded?

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Wave petunias grow in clumps, providing colorful garden bed coverage.

Wave petunias grow in large clumps. They self-seed and spread throughout garden beds or window boxes quickly. However, these hardy self-propagating annuals still require some care and attention to thrive. You must deadhead wave petunias for optimal [health](#).

## Significance

Deadheading is an important [gardening](#) technique designed to promote better overall plant [health](#). When a flower head wilts, it draws nutrients away from healthier plants, even as it is dying. You must cut away dead flowers to preserve the lifespan of your other wave petunias.

## Identification

A wilted [petunia](#) flower may not actually be dead or dying. If the plant is wilted but still colorful, then your plants may need more water or sunlight. If the wave petunia's flower is both wilted and blackened, then it is dying.

## Process

To properly deadhead, make sure you remove the whole decayed area. Any decay in the stalk must also be cut away. A decayed stalk will be less firm than a healthy stalk, and it will be a darker, duller shade of green.