

DIANTHUS 'BLUEBERRY'

Dianthus blueberry



Characteristics

- Annual
- Height: 6-8"
- Spread: 8-10"
- Sun: Full Sun
- Bloom Color: Purple
- Bloom Time: January – May
- Tolerant: Drought

Culture

True blue color now in a dianthus. Strong, full plants quickly fill the garden bed with a carpet of darling 1" blooms with overlapping petals and a crisp white eye. Untouched by summer's heat, humidity or rain, the self-cleaning plants require no special care to look their best. Enjoy cool blue color right up until frost. Combines earliness and a compact plant habit with large true blue color with crisp eye and frilled edge blooms. Great for potted plant use or as a mature dwarf. Dianthus are perennial, annual, or biennial plants with feathery silver-green or blue-gray leaves, usually forming a tight mound or mat.

Noteworthy Characteristics

Dianthus is another great standby in the garden and the new varieties just keep on producing blooms. Dianthus have blue/green leaves with ruffled flowers that start blooming in mid to late spring and continue until past the first frosts. Dianthus flowers rise from two inches up to two feet above the leaves, sometimes leaning a little lazily as they stretch toward the sun. The blooms, which have a ruffled edge that looks as if it has been trimmed with pinking shears, are typically only about an inch across, but healthy plants produce dozens of showy flowers at once. Dianthus flowers may be snow white, blush pink, bright magenta, or bicolored, with a flashy contrasting center or picotee edge. 'Diana's Blueberry Hybrid' is a soft but dazzling blue. The plants take hold willingly in the cracks of a rock wall, where their roots can stay cool. They flourish in the cool temperatures in spring and fall, but they are surprisingly adaptable. As long as they are planted in well-drained soil, they tolerate heat and thrive where rainfall and humidity are high. Dianthus flowers bloom prolifically in early spring and summer, but many dianthus will rebloom throughout the gardening season if you cut flowers off as they fade. Hedge shears will do the trick, leaving a tufty mound of foliage. Do not mulch too close to your Dianthus.

Problems

Excess moisture is perhaps the only problem with this plant which enjoys good drainage and full sun.

Garden Uses

Dianthus are drought-tolerant plants for sunny spots at the edge of a flower bed or a path. In small flower pots, pinks spread out to make a handsome display.