



Shirley Tulip

Tulipa 'Shirley'

Plant Height: 12 inches

Flower Height: 16 inches

Spread: 8 inches

Spacing: 4 inches

Sunlight: ☐ ☒

Hardiness Zone: 2a

Ornamental Features

Shirley Tulip has masses of beautiful white cup-shaped flowers with purple edges at the ends of the stems in mid spring, which are most effective when planted in groupings. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its sword-like leaves remain green in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Shirley Tulip is an herbaceous perennial with tall flower stalks held atop a low mound of foliage. Its medium texture blends into the garden, but can always be balanced by a couple of finer or coarser plants for an effective composition.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and should not require much pruning, except when necessary, such as to remove dieback. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Shirley Tulip is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use



Shirley Tulip flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Shirley Tulip in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Shirley Tulip will grow to be about 12 inches tall at maturity extending to 16 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 8 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 4 inches apart. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. As an herbaceous perennial, this plant will usually die back to the crown each winter, and will regrow from the base each spring. Be careful not to disturb the crown in late winter when it may not be readily seen! As this plant tends to go dormant in summer, it is best interplanted with late-season bloomers to hide the dying foliage.

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid. It can be propagated by multiplication of the underground bulbs; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.