Purple Spire® Columnar Crabapple

Malus 'Jefspire'

Height: 20 feet

Spread: 8 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 3

Other Names: Roseybloom, Crabapple

Group/Class: Spire Series

Description:

A beautiful landscape tree with sparse pink flowers in spring and purple fruit in fall; compact, columnar habit of growth with interesting dark purple-green summer foliage; best used as a solitary, needs well-drained soil and full sun

Ornamental Features

Purple Spire Columnar Crabapple features airy clusters of fragrant pink flowers along the branches in mid spring before the leaves. The fruits are showy purple pomes carried in abundance from early to mid fall. It has dark green-variegated deep purple foliage. The pointy leaves do not develop any appreciable fall color.

Landscape Attributes

Purple Spire Columnar Crabapple is a deciduous tree with a narrowly upright and columnar growth habit. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.

This tree will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Purple Spire Columnar Crabapple is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Shade
- Vertical Accent
- General Garden Use



Purple Spire Columnar Crabapple in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Purple Spire Columnar Crabapple flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Purple Spire Columnar Crabapple will grow to be about 20 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 8 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 50 years or more.

This tree should only be grown in full sunlight. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. 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.



Purple Spire Columnar Crabapple
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder