Magic Carpet Knotweed

Persicaria capitata 'Magic Carpet'



Magic Carpet Knotweed flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Plant Height: 3 inches

Flower Height: 5 inches

Spread: 30 inches

Spacing: 24 inches

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 4

Other Names: Smartweed, syn. Polygonum capitatum

Description:

An interesting groundcover; pointy heart shaped leaves are gray-green, with a burgundy V shaped marking; white button flowers rise on cherry red stems in late summer; an exceptional choice for season-long color

Ornamental Features

Magic Carpet Knotweed's attractive pointy leaves remain grayish green in color with prominent burgundy stripes throughout the season on a plant with a spreading habit of growth. It has masses of beautiful white button flowers rising above the foliage from late summer to mid fall, which emerge from distinctive pink flower buds, and which are most effective when planted in groupings. The flowers are excellent for cutting.

Landscape Attributes

Magic Carpet Knotweed is an herbaceous perennial with a ground-hugging habit of growth. 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 plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Spreading
- Self-Seeding

Magic Carpet Knotweed is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens
- Container Planting
- Bog Gardens

Planting & Growing

Magic Carpet Knotweed will grow to be only 3 inches tall at maturity extending to 5 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 30 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 24 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain low and dense right to the ground. It grows at a fast 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!

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It is quite adaptable, prefering to grow in average to wet conditions, and will even tolerate some standing water. 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 is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.

Magic Carpet Knotweed is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its spreading habit of growth, it is ideally suited for use as a 'spiller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the edges where it can spill gracefully over the pot. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.