Haight Ashbury Hibiscus

Hibiscus acetosella 'Haight Ashbury'



Haight Ashbury Hibiscus
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 5 feet

Spread: 30 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 8

Other Names: Rose Mallow

Description:

This bold plant features deep burgundy foliage similar to Japanese maple; deep burgundy emerging foliage matures to multi-tonal hues of cream, pink, to burgundy; subtle deep burgundy flowers in late summer; ideal for the mixed garden border or containers

Ornamental Features

Haight Ashbury Hibiscus features subtle burgundy round flowers at the ends of the stems in late summer. Its glossy lobed leaves emerge burgundy in spring, turning dark green in color with showy pink variegation and tinges of creamy white throughout the season.



Haight Ashbury Hibiscus foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Haight Ashbury Hibiscus is an herbaceous perennial with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively coarse texture can be used to stand it apart from other garden plants with finer foliage.

This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies and hummingbirds to your yard. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Insects
- Self-Seeding

Haight Ashbury Hibiscus is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

Haight Ashbury Hibiscus will grow to be about 5 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 30 inches. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 5 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. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America. It can be propagated by cuttings; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Haight Ashbury Hibiscus is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. With its upright habit of growth, it is best suited for use as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.