Vail Compact Douglas Fir

Pseudotsuga menziesii 'Vail'



Vail Compact Douglas Fir
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 4 feet

Spread: 4 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 4

Description:

A truly dwarf evergreen conifer with bluish-green needles, a compact variety ideally suited for general garden use; requires moist soil and humid growing conditions, best with shelter against drying winds

Ornamental Features

Vail Compact Douglas Fir is a dwarf conifer which is primarily valued in the landscape or garden for its decidedly oval form. It has attractive bluish-green evergreen foliage. The needles are highly ornamental and remain bluish-green throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Vail Compact Douglas Fir is a dense multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a shapely oval form. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other landscape plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub. When pruning is necessary, it is recommended to only trim back the new growth of the current season, other than to remove any dieback. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Vail Compact Douglas Fir is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use

Planting & Growing

Vail Compact Douglas Fir will grow to be about 4 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 4 feet. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live to a ripe old age of 100 years or more; think of this as a heritage shrub for future generations!

This shrub should only be grown in full sunlight. It requires an evenly moist well-drained soil for optimal growth, but will die in standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil type, but has a definite preference for acidic soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selection of a native North American species.