# Elsbeth Cranesbill

***Geranium sanguineum 'Elsbeth'***



*Elsbeth Cranesbill flowers*
*Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder*

Height: 14 inches

Spread: 24 inches

Spacing: 20 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4

Other Names: Bloody Cranesbill

**Description:**

Perfect as a groundcover, this low mounded variety has small, deeply lobed leaves that turn crimson red in the fall; bathed in beautiful magenta saucer-shaped blooms throughout summer; deadhead spent flowers for reblooming later in the season

**Ornamental Features**

Elsbeth Cranesbill has masses of beautiful hot pink flowers with white eyes at the ends of the stems from mid spring to early fall, which are most effective when planted in groupings. Its deeply cut lobed palmate leaves are grayish green in color. As an added bonus, the foliage turns a gorgeous crimson in the fall.

**Landscape Attributes**

Elsbeth Cranesbill is a dense herbaceous perennial with a mounded form. It brings an extremely fine and delicate texture to the garden composition and should be used to full effect.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. 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.

Elsbeth Cranesbill is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Container Planting

**Planting & Growing**

Elsbeth Cranesbill will grow to be about 14 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 24 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 20 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. 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!

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist locations, and should do just fine under typical garden conditions. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Elsbeth Cranesbill is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. It is often used as a 'filler' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, providing a mass of flowers against which the thriller plants stand out. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.