Winter™ Orchid Wallflower

Erysimum 'ER 06 4-2'



Winter Orchid Wallflower flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 24 inches

Spread: 20 inches

Spacing: 18 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 6

Other Names: Siberian Wallflower

Group/Class: Winter Series

Description:

Large, fragrant blooms that emerge red-orange, and mature to violet-purple on big, bushy plants; best performance in full sun; wonderful for mixed borders, rock gardens or containers; may succumb to root-rot if winter soil is wet and not well-drained

Ornamental Features

Winter Orchid Wallflower features showy clusters of fragrant red flowers with orange overtones rising above the foliage from mid spring to early fall, which emerge from distinctive deep purple flower buds. Its sword-like leaves remain grayish green in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Winter Orchid Wallflower is an herbaceous perennial with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This is a high maintenance plant that will require regular care and upkeep, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. It is a good choice for attracting bees and butterflies to your yard. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Self-Seeding

Winter Orchid Wallflower is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Winter Orchid Wallflower will grow to be about 20 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 20 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 18 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. It grows at a fast rate, and tends to be biennial, meaning that it puts on vegetative growth the first year, flowers the second, and then dies. However, this variety tends to self-seed and will thereby endure for years in the garden if allowed, although because it is a hybrid, the seedlings may not come true to type. 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 growing conditions, but will not tolerate any 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 alkaline soils. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.

Winter Orchid Wallflower 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. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.