Maiden Pinks

Dianthus deltoides



Maiden Pinks flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Plant Height: 6 inches

Flower Height: 8 inches

Spread: 18 inches

Spacing: 14 inches

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 2

Description:

Vigorous and free flowering, featuring frilly flowers in shades of reds, pinks or whites, spreading across a low growing mat of green foliage; drought tolerant and easy to grow, ideal for rock gardens, borders or used as groundcover

Ornamental Features

Maiden Pinks has masses of beautiful fragrant pink frilly flowers with a cherry red ring at the ends of the stems from late spring to mid summer, which are most effective when planted in groupings. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its attractive narrow leaves remain light green in color throughout the year.

Landscape Attributes

Maiden Pinks is an herbaceous evergreen 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 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 bees and butterflies to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Self-Seeding

Maiden Pinks is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

Maiden Pinks will grow to be only 6 inches tall at maturity extending to 8 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 18 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 14 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain low and dense right to the ground. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 5 years. As an evegreen perennial, this plant will typically keep its form and foliage year-round.

This plant should only be grown in full sunlight. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. 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 species is not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division.

Maiden Pinks 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 and foliage 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.