Spike Speedwell

Veronica 'Spike'

Plant Height: 10 inches

Flower Height: 18 inches

Spread: 16 inches

Spacing: 12 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4

Description:

An easy to grow and virtually maintenance-free selection, producing tall spikes of bright blue flowers, held above clumps of low growing, dense green foliage; makes an ideal garden accent, great in rock gardens

Ornamental Features

Spike Speedwell has masses of beautiful spikes of sky blue flowers with lavender overtones rising above the foliage from early to late summer, which are most effective when planted in groupings. Its narrow leaves remain green in color throughout the year.

Landscape Attributes

Spike Speedwell is a dense herbaceous evergreen perennial with tall flower stalks held atop a low mound of foliage. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Spike Speedwell is recommended for the following landscape applications;



Spike Speedwell flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Spike Speedwell flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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

Planting & Growing

Spike Speedwell will grow to be about 10 inches tall at maturity extending to 18 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 16 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 12 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 8 years. As an evegreen perennial, this plant will typically keep its form and foliage year-round.

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It prefers dry to average moisture levels with very well-drained soil, and will often die in standing water. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for a low-water garden or xeriscape application. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in sandy soils, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid. 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.

Spike Speedwell 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 larger 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.