White Ball Flowering Dogwood

Cornus kousa 'White Ball'



White Ball Flowering Dogwood flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 12 feet

Spread: 12 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 5

Description:

A compact selection with a globose habit featuring stunning white blooms from mid to late spring, followed by raspberry-like berries in late summer to fall; dark green foliage turns reddish-purple in fall; a wonderful landscape accent plant

Ornamental Features

White Ball Flowering Dogwood is smothered in stunning bracted white flowers held atop the branches from mid to late spring. It has attractive dark green deciduous foliage. The pointy leaves are highly ornamental and turn an outstanding burgundy in the fall. It features an abundance of magnificent crimson berries from late summer to mid fall. The fruit can be messy if allowed to drop on the lawn or walkways, and may require occasional clean-up. The peeling gray bark and antique red branches add an interesting dimension to the landscape.

Landscape Attributes

White Ball Flowering Dogwood is a multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with a more or less rounded form. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. It is a good choice for attracting birds to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

White Ball Flowering Dogwood is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Hedges/Screening

Planting & Growing

White Ball Flowering Dogwood will grow to be about 12 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 12 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 40 years or more.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. This plant should be periodically fertilized throughout the active growing season with a specially-formulated acidic fertilizer. It is very fussy about its soil conditions and must have rich, acidic soils to ensure success, and is subject to chlorosis (yellowing) of the foliage in alkaline 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 selected variety of a species not originally from North America.