Dark Knight Flowering Crab

Malus 'Dark Knight'



Dark Knight Flowering Crab flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 20 feet

Spread: 14 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 3

Other Names: Roseybloom, Crabapple

Description:

This highly ornamental selection features showy deep-pink flowers in spring and persistent bright red fruit in fall, spreading habit of growth; the definitive ornamental accent for the front yard, needs well-drained soil and full sun

Ornamental Features

Dark Knight Flowering Crab is smothered in stunning clusters of fragrant rose flowers along the branches in mid spring, which emerge from distinctive cherry red flower buds before the leaves. The fruits are showy red pomes carried in abundance from early to late fall. It has brick red-tipped dark green foliage which emerges burgundy in spring. The pointy leaves turn outstanding shades of yellow and orange in the fall.

Landscape Attributes

Dark Knight Flowering Crab is a deciduous tree 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 tree will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Dark Knight Flowering Crab is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Shade

Planting & Growing

Dark Knight Flowering Crab will grow to be about 20 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 14 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 4 feet from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 50 years or more.

This tree 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 particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.