Fireworks Chinese Dogwood

Cornus kousa 'Fireworks'

Height: 20 feet

Spread: 20 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 4

Other Names: Kousa Dogwood

Description:

A lovely shrubby and broad spreading dogwood with light pink bracts and great fall color; late spring blooms last for several weeks, covered in berries in fall; vigorous and tolerant of most soils except very wet or dry



Fireworks Chinese Dogwood flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Fireworks Chinese Dogwood features showy clusters of shell pink flowers with shell pink bracts held atop the branches in late spring. It features an abundance of magnificent crimson berries from early to mid fall. It has green deciduous foliage. The pointy leaves turn an outstanding orange in the fall. The peeling gray bark adds an interesting dimension to the landscape.



Fireworks Chinese Dogwood in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Fireworks Chinese Dogwood is a multi-stemmed deciduous tree with a stunning habit of growth which features almost oriental horizontally-tiered branches. 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 tree, 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.

Fireworks Chinese Dogwood is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- General Garden Use

Planting & Growing

Fireworks Chinese Dogwood will grow to be about 20 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 20 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 medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 40 years or more.

This tree 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. 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.



Fireworks Chinese Dogwood in fall
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder