Creeping Cotoneaster

Cotoneaster nanshan



Creeping Cotoneaster flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 3 feet

Spread: 6 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4

Description:

A choice plant for massing and groundcover, featuring arching, creeping branches that tend to root where they touch the soil and form a dense mound; pretty pink flowers in spring followed by brilliant red fruit in fall; semi-evergreen

Ornamental Features

Creeping Cotoneaster is primarily valued in the garden for its cascading habit of growth. It features tiny clusters of shell pink flowers along the branches in mid spring. It has dark green deciduous foliage. The small glossy oval leaves turn an outstanding brick red in the fall.

Landscape Attributes

Creeping Cotoneaster is a multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with a shapely form and gracefully arching branches. It lends an extremely fine and delicate texture to the landscape composition which should be used to full effect.

This shrub will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and should not require much pruning, except when necessary, such as to remove dieback. It is a good choice for attracting birds to your yard. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Insects
- Disease

Creeping Cotoneaster is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover

Planting & Growing

Creeping Cotoneaster will grow to be about 3 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 6 feet. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 30 years.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist growing conditions, but will not tolerate any standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil type or pH, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This species is not originally from North America.