Peter Knippel Garden Centre

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The Countess Of Wessex Clematis

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Clematis 'Evipo073'



The Countess Of Wessex Clematis flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 6 feet

Spread: 24 inches

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 4a

Description:

This lovely, compact variety is extremely free flowering, producing very pale pink blooms with darker pink stripes and deep red stamens; perfect for garden walls, patios and containers; a great conversation piece

Ornamental Features

The Countess Of Wessex Clematis features delicate shell pink star-shaped flowers with white overtones, dark red eyes and pink stripes at the ends of the stems from early to late summer. Its compound leaves remain green in colour throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

The Countess Of Wessex Clematis is an herbaceous perennial vine with a twining and trailing habit of growth. Its medium texture blends into the garden, but can always be balanced by a couple of finer or coarser plants for an effective composition.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant. It is a Type 2 clematis, which means it will bloom primarily on old wood of the previous season, with a second flush later in summer. Dead and weak vines should be removed in late winter, and remaining vines should be trimmed back to the first buds that are seen to remove dead stems. It is a good choice for attracting bees and hummingbirds to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

The Countess Of Wessex Clematis is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

The Countess Of Wessex Clematis will grow to be about 6 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 24 inches. As a climbing vine, it should either be planted near a fence, trellis or other landscape structure where it can be trained to grow upwards on it, or allowed to trail off a retaining wall or slope. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 20 years. As an herbaceous perennial, this plant will usually die back to the crown each winter, and will regrow from the base each spring. Be careful not to disturb the crown in late winter when it may not be readily seen!

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This plant should only be grown in full sunlight. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in both summer and winter to conserve soil moisture and protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.

The Countess Of Wessex Clematis is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its spreading habit of growth, it is ideally suited for use as a 'spiller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the edges where it can spill gracefully over the pot. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden. Be aware that in our climate, most plants cannot be expected to survive the winter if left in containers outdoors, and this plant is no exception. Contact our experts for more information on how to protect it over the winter months.