HERITAGE
FARM & GARDEN

Common Boxwood (spiral)

Buxus sempervirens '(spiral)'



Common Boxwood (spiral)
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 10 feet

Spread: 30 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 5a

Other Names: Common Box

Description:

An excellent specimen plant to form a spiral topiary, as it takes pruning exceptionally well, a broadleaf evergreen that's best with some shelter from the winter sun and wind

Ornamental Features

Common Boxwood (spiral) is primarily valued in the landscape or garden for its distinctively pyramidal habit of growth. It has rich green evergreen foliage. The small round leaves remain green throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Common Boxwood (spiral) is a dense multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a distinctive and refined pyramidal form. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other landscape plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and can be pruned at anytime. It is a good choice for attracting bees to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Common Boxwood (spiral) is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use
- Topiary
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Common Boxwood (spiral) will grow to be about 10 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 30 inches. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front, 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 prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It is not particular as to soil type, but has a definite preference for alkaline soils. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.

Common Boxwood (spiral) makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor pots and containers. Its large size and upright habit of growth lend it for use as a solitary accent, or in a composition surrounded by smaller plants around the base and those that spill over the edges. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when grown in a container, it may not perform exactly as indicated on the tag - this is to be expected. Also note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.