

Wright's Skullcap



Wright's Skullcap *Scutellaria wrightii*

Height: 10 inches

Spread: 12 inches

Spacing: 10 inches

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 8b

Other Names: Bushy Skullcap, Shrubby Skullcap

Description:

A beautifully flowering shrubby perennial, featuring spikes of showy violet and blue flowers accented in white; spectacular when in mass bloom; lovely in the garden, or along low borders; drought tolerant, with low water use



Wright's Skullcap flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Wright's Skullcap features showy spikes of blue pea-like flowers with violet overtones and white stripes rising above the foliage from early spring to early summer. Its oval leaves remain grayish green in colour throughout the year.

Landscape Attributes

Wright's Skullcap is an herbaceous evergreen perennial with an upright spreading 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 plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. 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.

Wright's Skullcap is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens
- Container Planting

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Planting & Growing

Wright's Skullcap will grow to be about 10 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 12 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 10 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain low and dense right to the ground. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 4 years. As an evergreen perennial, this plant will typically keep its form and foliage year-round.

This plant 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 is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for a low-water garden or xeriscape application. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in sandy soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. Consider covering it with a thick layer of mulch in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This species is native to parts of North America. It can be propagated by division.

Wright's Skullcap is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. It is often used as a 'filler' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, providing a mass of flowers against which the larger thriller plants stand out. 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.