

Variegated Hebe



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Hebe elliptica 'Variegata'

Height: 3 feet

Spread: 3 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 8b

Other Names: Variegated Shrubby Veronica, Hebe 'Silver Queen'

Description:

Lovely purple flowers with blue highlights grace this attractive shrub throughout the summer; stunning variegated oval leaves add interest all year long; perfect for adding lasting color to a shrub border; also a great container plant

Ornamental Features

Variegated Hebe has masses of beautiful clusters of purple flowers with sky blue overtones rising above the foliage from early to late summer, which are most effective when planted in groupings. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its attractive glossy oval leaves emerge chartreuse in spring, turning grayish green in colour with showy creamy white variegation and tinges of yellow the rest of the year.

Landscape Attributes

Variegated Hebe is an open multi-stemmed 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 is a relatively low maintenance plant, 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, bees and butterflies to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Variegated Hebe is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Variegated Hebe will grow to be about 3 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. Although it is technically a woody plant, this plant can be expected to behave as a perennial in our climate if planted outdoors over the winter, usually regrowing from its base (crown) the following year. As such, gardeners should take into consideration that it will perform differently than it would in its native habitat.



Variegated Hebe flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. This plant should not require much in the way of fertilizing once established, although it may appreciate a shot of general-purpose fertilizer from time to time early in the growing season. 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 is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.

Variegated Hebe is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. With its upright habit of growth, it is best suited for use as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants 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 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.