Lakeshore Garden Centres

Birthday Cake Butterfly Bush

4102 - 11th St. West
P.O. Box 2A RR3
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Birthday Cake™ Butterfly Bush

Buddleia 'PODvb3-30'



Birthday Cake Butterfly Bush flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 5 feet

Spread: 3 feet

Sunlight: ○

Hardiness Zone: 6a

Other Names: Summer Lilac

Description:

Long, fragrant, pinkish purple flower spikes stand straight up like candles on a cake; compact, easy to grow, and attracts pollinators; may treat as a perennial and cut it back to the ground each spring as it regrows vigorously and blooms on new wood

Ornamental Features

Birthday Cake Butterfly Bush features showy panicles of fragrant purple flowers with hot pink overtones at the ends of the branches from early summer to mid fall, which emerge from distinctive deep purple flower buds. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its serrated narrow leaves remain green in colour throughout the season.



Birthday Cake Butterfly Bush in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Landscape Attributes

Birthday Cake Butterfly Bush is an open multi-stemmed 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 is best cut back to the ground in late winter before active growth resumes. It is a good choice for attracting bees, butterflies and hummingbirds 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.

Birthday Cake Butterfly Bush is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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Birthday Cake Butterfly Bush

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Birthday Cake Butterfly Bush will grow to be about 5 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. It tends to be leggy, with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground, and should be underplanted with lower-growing perennials. Although it is technically a woody plant, this fast-growing 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.

This plant should only be grown in full sunlight. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist locations, and should do just fine under typical garden conditions. 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 particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.

Birthday Cake Butterfly Bush 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.

This plant is not reliably hardy in our region, and certain restrictions may apply; contact the store for more information.