

## Double Japanese Aster

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### Double Japanese Aster *Kalimeris pinnatifida*

Height: 3 feet

Spread: 24 inches

Spacing: 18 inches

Sunlight: ○ ●

Hardiness Zone: 5b

Other Names: False Aster, Oriental Boltonia; Ghengis Khan Aster

#### Description:

A distinguished low growing relative of the aster that is noted for its lanced shaped green leaves; forms a blanket of daisy-like double flowers with yellow centers, rising above the stems until frost

#### Ornamental Features

Double Japanese Aster is blanketed in stunning white daisy flowers with yellow eyes at the ends of the stems from late summer to early fall. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its attractive narrow leaves remain green in color throughout the season.

#### Landscape Attributes

Double Japanese Aster is a dense herbaceous perennial with a mounded form. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Double Japanese Aster is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting



*Double Japanese Aster in bloom  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder*

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### Planting & Growing

Double Japanese Aster will grow to be about 30 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 24 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 18 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 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!

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. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. This species is not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division.

Double Japanese Aster is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its height, it is often used 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.