Mayflower Cranesbill

Geranium sylvaticum 'Mayflower'



Mayflower Cranesbill flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 28 inches

Spread: 28 inches

Spacing: 24 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 2

Other Names: Hardy Wild Geranium, Wood Cranesbill

Description:

A fine textured mound of violet-blue saucer shaped blooms with white centers and streaks; deadhead spent flowers for reblooming later in the season

Ornamental Features

Mayflower Cranesbill has masses of beautiful blue flowers with violet overtones and white eyes at the ends of the stems from late spring to early summer, which are most effective when planted in groupings. Its deeply cut lobed palmate leaves remain dark green in colour throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Mayflower Cranesbill is an 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 should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Mayflower Cranesbill is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

Mayflower Cranesbill will grow to be about 28 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 28 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 24 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 prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Mayflower Cranesbill is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. It can be used either as 'filler' or as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, depending on the height and form of the other plants used in the container planting. 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.