TAGAWA gardens

Purple Ruffles Kale

Brassica oleracea var. acephala 'Purple Ruffles'



Purple Ruffles Kale
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 18 inches

Spread: 24 inches

Sunlight: ◐

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Other Names: Ornamental Kale, Ornamental Cabbage

Description:

This ornamental variety produces a beautiful dense rosette of purple foliage with a vibrant pink center, framed by gray-green mature leaves; a stunning garden accent, or may be used as a container focal point; color is dependent on cool weather

Ornamental Features

Purple Ruffles Kale is primarily valued in the garden for its ornamental globe-shaped form. Its attractive crinkled round leaves remain purple in color with showy pink variegation and tinges of grayish green throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Purple Ruffles Kale is a dense herbaceous annual with a more or less rounded form. 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 not require much pruning, except when necessary, such as to remove dieback. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Purple Ruffles Kale is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Purple Ruffles Kale will grow to be about 18 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 24 inches. This fast-growing annual will normally live for one full growing season, needing replacement the following year.

This plant should be grown in a location with partial shade or which is shaded from the hot afternoon sun. It requires an evenly moist well-drained soil for optimal growth, but will die in standing water. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone over the growing season to conserve soil moisture. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.

Purple Ruffles Kale 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 canvas of foliage against which the 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.

