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## Red Hibiscus

***Hibiscus rosa-sinensis 'Red'***



*Red Hibiscus flowers*
*Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder*

Height: 8 feet

Spread: 8 feet

Sunlight: ◐

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Other Names: Tropical Hibiscus

**Description:**

This variety has a rounded upright shape bearing striking, large red blooms; makes an ideal hedge, screen, or background planting; great for containers; do not allow to dry to wilting point

**Ornamental Features**

Red Hibiscus features bold red round flowers at the ends of the branches from mid summer to early fall. Its glossy pointy leaves remain dark green in color throughout the year.

**Landscape Attributes**

Red Hibiscus is an herbaceous annual 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 plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and should be cut back in late fall in preparation for winter. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies and hummingbirds to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Insects
- Self-Seeding

Red Hibiscus is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

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**Planting & Growing**

Red Hibiscus will grow to be about 8 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 8 feet. Although it's not a true annual, this fast-growing plant can be expected to behave as an annual in our climate if left outdoors over the winter, usually needing replacement 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 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 type or pH. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America. It can be propagated by cuttings; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Red Hibiscus 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.



