TAGAWA gardens

## Head Over Heels® Passion™ Hibiscus*

***Hibiscus 'RutHib2'***



*Head Over Heels Passion Hibiscus flowers*
*Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder*

Height: 3 feet

Spread: 4 feet

Spacing: 4 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4

Other Names: Rose Mallow, Hardy Hibiscus

**Description:**

Large, vibrant hot pink flowers with deep red eyes contrast beautifully against dark burgundy foliage; compact habit, ideal for mixed garden borders, in mass plantings or in containers; attracts pollinators

**Ornamental Features**

Head Over Heels Passion Hibiscus features bold hot pink round flowers with dark red eyes along the stems from mid summer to early fall, which emerge from distinctive light green flower buds. Its heart-shaped leaves remain burgundy in color with hints of dark green throughout the season.

**Landscape Attributes**

Head Over Heels Passion Hibiscus is an herbaceous perennial with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively coarse texture can be used to stand it apart from other garden plants with finer foliage.

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

Head Over Heels Passion Hibiscus is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens
- Container Planting

**Planting & Growing**

Head Over Heels Passion Hibiscus will grow to be about 3 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 4 feet. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 4 feet apart. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 5 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 requires an evenly moist well-drained soil for optimal growth, but will die in standing water. To help this plant achive its best flowering performance, periodically apply a flower-boosting fertilizer from early spring through into the active growing season. 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 particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.

Head Over Heels Passion 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.

** This is a 'special order' plant - contact store for details*