Alaska Nasturtium

Tropaeolum majus 'Alaska'



Alaska Nasturtium flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 12 inches

Spread: 12 inches

Spacing: 6 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Other Names: Alaska Mix Nasturtium, Indian Cress, Monk's Cress

Description:

A bushy, spreading variety with interesting dark green foliage with white variegation; blooms range in color with shades of cream, yellow, orange, salmon, and burgundy; great as an annual in mixed beds, containers or borders

Ornamental Features

Alaska Nasturtium features showy fragrant orange trumpet-shaped flowers with red overtones held atop the stems from early summer to early fall. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its round leaves remain green in color with showy white variegation throughout the year.

Landscape Attributes

Alaska Nasturtium is an herbaceous annual with a mounded 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. Trim off the flower heads after they fade and die to encourage more blooms late into the season. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies to your yard. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Insects

Alaska Nasturtium is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

Planting & Growing

Alaska Nasturtium will grow to be about 12 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 12 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 6 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. This fast-growing annual will normally live for one full growing season, needing replacement the following year.

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It prefers dry to average moisture levels with very well-drained soil, and will often die in standing water. 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.

Alaska Nasturtium is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor containers and hanging baskets. It is often used as a 'filler' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, providing a mass of flowers 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.