RUTGERS

LANDSCAPE & NURSERY
"Like No Other Nursery"

Hippo® Pink Polka Dot Plant

Hypoestes phyllostachya 'Hippo Pink'



Hippo Pink Polka Dot Plant foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 18 inches

Spread: 12 inches

Spacing: 10 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Group/Class: Hippo Series

Description:

This spectacular, eye catching plant presents shiny dark green leaves that are splashed and dotted with electric pink, creating a vibrant color contrast in the garden or containers; heat tolerant, and does well in sun or shade

Ornamental Features

Hippo Pink Polka Dot Plant's attractive oval leaves remain dark green in color with distinctive hot pink spots throughout the year on a plant with a mounded habit of growth.

Landscape Attributes

Hippo Pink Polka Dot Plant 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 is a relatively low maintenance plant, and should not require much pruning, except when necessary, such as to remove dieback. 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.

Hippo Pink Polka Dot Plant is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Container Planting
- Hanging Baskets

Planting & Growing

Hippo Pink Polka Dot Plant will grow to be about 18 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 10 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. 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 performs well in both full sun and full shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate 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. 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.

Hippo Pink Polka Dot Plant 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 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.