

# Gertens Plant Info.



## Valentine® Bleeding Heart

*Dicentra spectabilis 'Hordival'*

Height: 3 feet

Spread: 3 feet

Spacing: 24 inches

Sunlight: ● ●

Hardiness Zone: 3a

Other Names: Old Fashioned Bleeding Heart

### Description:

A vigorous variety with delicate and pendulous clusters of red and white flowers in late spring; ferny gray-green foliage that is delicate and finely cut; a beautiful garden accent

### Ornamental Features

Valentine® Bleeding Heart features delicate nodding cherry red heart-shaped flowers with white centers dangling from the stems from late spring to early summer. Its ferny compound leaves remain grayish green in color throughout the season.

### Landscape Attributes

Valentine® Bleeding Heart is an herbaceous perennial with a mounded form. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined 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 to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Valentine® Bleeding Heart is recommended for the following landscape applications;



*Valentine® Bleeding Heart flowers*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



*Valentine® Bleeding Heart in bloom*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder





## Gertens Plant Info.

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

### Planting & Growing

Valentine® Bleeding Heart will grow to be about 3 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 24 inches apart. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 15 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! As this plant tends to go dormant in summer, it is best interplanted with late-season bloomers to hide the dying foliage.

This plant does best in partial shade to shade. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. 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. It can be propagated by division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Valentine® Bleeding Heart is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its height, it is often used 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. Be aware that in our climate, most plants cannot be expected to survive the winter if left in containers outdoors, and this plant is no exception. Contact our experts for more information on how to protect it over the winter months.

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