Pine, Valley Cushion Mugo

Pinus mugo 'Valley Cushion'



Pine, Valley Cushion Mugo
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 24 inches

Spread: 3 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 2b

Other Names: Mugho Pine, Swiss Mountain Pine

Description:

One of the very smallest of the dwarf pines, this variety develops its extremely dense and compact mounded shape very slowly over many years, also has very short needles; a superb choice for miniature effect in rock or alpine gardens

Ornamental Features

Pine, Valley Cushion Mugo is a dwarf conifer which is primarily valued in the garden for its ornamental globe-shaped form. It has emerald green evergreen foliage. The needles remain emerald green throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Pine, Valley Cushion Mugo is a dense multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a more or less rounded form. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other landscape plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub. When pruning is necessary, it is recommended to only trim back the new growth of the current season, other than to remove any dieback. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Pine, Valley Cushion Mugo is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- General Garden Use

Planting & Growing

Pine, Valley Cushion Mugo will grow to be about 24 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 50 years or more.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. It does best in average conditions that are neither too wet nor too dry, and is very intolerant of standing water. This plant should be periodically fertilized throughout the active growing season with a specially-formulated acidic fertilizer. It is not particular as to soil type or pH, and is able to handle environmental salt. 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.

Clean up Rating (1-5) 1=least effort 5=most effort

Clean Up Rating (4): Cones are egg shaped 1 to 2 1/2 inches long. They are purple when young, maturing to brown and found in groups of 1 to 4. Clean up is raking and bagging them. The needles can be blown or raked onto the lawn and mowed or raked. Our desert climate especially in late winter to early spring evergreens can suffer during next growing season. An easy way to remember check for dryness is on the holidays Halloween, Thanksgiving, New Year's Day, Valentines Day & Easter. During the growing season maintain regular deep watering.