# Bluebeard, Dark Knight

***Caryopteris x clandonensis 'Dark Knight'***

Height: 24 inches

Spread: 24 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 6a

Other Names: Bluebeard, Blue Spirea, Blue Mist Shrub

**Description:**

Light, airy shrub with deep blue flowers on dusty green leaves; foliage has fuzzy, silver undersides and is pleasantly fragrant when crushed; a real butterfly magnet for the garden

**Ornamental Features**

Bluebeard, Dark Knight features dainty cymes of royal blue flowers along the branches from mid summer to early fall. The flowers are excellent for cutting. It has grayish green foliage with silver undersides. The fuzzy oval leaves do not develop any appreciable fall color.

**Landscape Attributes**

Bluebeard, Dark Knight is an open multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other landscape plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It is a good choice for attracting birds and 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.

Bluebeard, Dark Knight is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use



*Bluebeard, Dark Knight flowers*
*Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder*



*Bluebeard, Dark Knight flowers*
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**Planting & Growing**

Bluebeard, Dark Knight will grow to be about 24 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 24 inches. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 20 years.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate 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. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.