



## Camellias:

**General info:** Camellia sasanqua varieties bloom from fall into winter and Camellia japonica varieties bloom from winter into spring. The blooms of the numerous varieties display in an array of different colors and styles. Japonicas have larger, shinier leaves and larger flowers than sasanquas. Most camellias prefer filtered sun or full morning sun with afternoon shade; sasanquas can take more sun than japonicas. Camellias are evergreen and can have several different growth habits, from weeping 2-3ft tall to upright 10ft tall plus.

**Landscape uses:** They can be used as single specimen focal points, or as a privacy hedge when planted close together, and can also be trained as an espalier. Small varieties can be used as a ground cover.

**Ornamental qualities:** Beautiful abundant flowers during Fall and Winter with many styles and colors to choose from. There are six commonly recognized flower forms: single form, semi-double, anemone form, peony form, formal double form, rose form double (flower opens to reveal stamens).

**Planting:** Camellias prefer well drained soil and should not be planted where water stands or saturates the soil for long periods of time. Dig the hole 2 to 3 times wider than the root ball. If soil conditions are sandy and well drained, place the top of the root ball ½ inch higher than the ground level surrounding it. If soil conditions are more prone to hold water and on the heavy clay side, place the top of the root ball 1-2 inches higher than the ground level surrounding it. Do not cover the top of the root ball with soil. This will allow feeder roots necessary breathing room and will help prevent over saturation, which could be detrimental to the plant. After planting, be sure to put some type of mulch around the base of the camellia to help shade the roots from sun scald and to lock in moisture. Camellias tend to prefer a slightly lower soil PH level of 5 to 6; but have performed well in a PH level between 6 and 7.

**Pruning:** If trimming is necessary, be sure to do so within 1-2 months after they bloom to be sure you're not cutting off next year's blooms.

**Fertilizing/Watering:** Use a low nitrogen fertilizer when feeding, since camellias are not aggressive growers and are sensitive to nitrogen burn.

Newly planted camellias will need regular watering, and especially during times of drought and/or extreme heat. The frequency and volume of water will depend on the site, soil and weather conditions. After a few years, established camellias are very drought resistant.



## Varieties:

### Japonica Varieties:

**Blood of China:** Deep salmon red, medium sized flower with compact growth habit.

**Carter's Sunburst:** (variegated) Spectacular, double, medium pink blooms streaked with deeper pink. Flowers range from semi-double to peony forms to formal doubles on the same plant.

**Debutante:** Large peony form blooms are a clear light pink.

**Don Mac:** semi-double dark red, crepe-like flowers are exquisitely ruffled and feminine. Each semi-double bloom has a yellowy crown of stamens in the center.

**Dr. Tinsley:** This variety looks more like a wild rose than a camellia. The semi-double blooms are soft pink with deeper shaded edges.

**Kramer's Supreme:** Very large red blooms are lightly fragrant and arrive in early spring. It has a very strong upright habit.

**Laura Walker:** (variegated) The large blooms are bright red with an anemone form and a small amount of white marbling. It is a vigorous grower with a narrow, compact habit.

**Morning Glow:** White double flowers with overlapping petals and no visible pollen anthers in the center. Slow growing, but a vigorous plant.

**Pink Perfection:** Pale pink, formal double type with petals that overlap and contain no stamens.

**Professor Sargent:** Dark red peony flowers and a vigorous, care free growth habit. This selection has abundant and prolonged flowering.

**Rosea Plena:** Dark pink flowers, rose form

**White Empress:** Very large, semi-double **white** flowers with bright yellow stamens

### Sasanqua Varieties:

**Bonanza:** Semi peony form; deep red with yellow stamens; stays small

**Cotton Candy:** Dense, spreading evergreen shrub with relatively large semi-double pink flowers, scented and ruffled and with a lot of petaloid stamens.

**Kanjiro:** Cerise pink, gold stamens, semi-double form

**Shishi-Gashira:** The amazing magenta pink of the flower petals have lively yellow centers look like little pompoms and pop against the gleaming green foliage.

**Stephanie Golden:** Hot pink semidouble with yellow anthers & filaments.

**Yuletide:** Small, single, brilliant fiery red blooms are centered with bright yellow stamens. It features an upright habit and blooms around Christmas.