

# Spirea

An old time favorite, spirea are small to medium sized deciduous shrubs that produce an abundance of spring and/or summer flowers. Amongst the easiest flowering shrubs to grow, spireas are often used in foundation plantings, as hedges, and in perennial borders. They thrive in hot sunny locations and are tolerant of many soil types, except those that are extremely wet and soggy or poorly drained.

## Pruning

Spirea shrubs respond well to hard pruning every 2-3 years to help maintain size and for better flower production. Prune during winter or very early spring to rejuvenate by cutting back to 6-12" before new growth emerges. Light pruning or dead-heading in summer after flowering also helps in maintaining size.

## Planting Instructions

Dig a hole slightly shallower than the depth and two to three times wider than the width of the plants rootball. Remove the plant from the container and loosen the rootball by vigorously pulling the roots to free them from the mass. Place the plant in the hole with the rootflare slightly above ground level (Avoid planting too deep!) Backfill the hole with a mixture of half native soil, half **Stauffers Professional Planting Mix** and **Espoma Bio-tone Starter Plus** (at manufacturers recommended rate). This starter fertilizer contains beneficial mycorrhizae which improve soil structure and promote deeper, faster root growth. Spread a 2-3" layer of mulch over the planting area being sure to keep mulch away from the trunk or stems of the plant and water thoroughly.

Newly planted spirea will require a slow deep soaking 1-2 times a week in the absence of rainfall, for the first two months after planting, and then once a week until fall.

Variety	Color/Description	Height x Spread
Big Bang Double Play	Massive pink flowers with bright golden orange foliage in spring and fall, yellow-green in summer	2'-3' x 3'-4'
Golden Elf	Rosey-pink flowers in late spring; tiny yellow leaves; groundcover in habit	6"-12" x 18"-24"
Gold Flame	Bronze-gold foliage with reddish tips & pink late spring flowers	3'-4' x 4'-5'
Gold Mound	Golden yellow leaves in spring with pink flowers; reddish-pink fall color	2'-3' x 4'-5'
Little Princess	Abundant pale pink flowers in late spring/summer; low spreading habit	2'-2 1/2' x 4'-5'
Magic Carpet	Vibrant red leaf tips above bright golden foliage & deep pink flowers late spring into summer	2 1/2'-3' x 3'-4'
Mellow Yellow	Willowy foliage in chartreuse with delicate white spring blooms	3'-4' x 3'-4'
Neon Flash	Vivid red-pink blooms late spring into summer with blue green foliage; new foliage tinted purple	3'-4' x 4'-5'
Snowmound	Graceful arching branches covered in white blooms in late spring	4'-5' x 4'-5'