

Heaths and Heathers

There are three classes of heaths and heathers:
Calluna (true heather), Daboecia (Irish heather) and Erica (heath)

All are evergreen, small shrubs with thin needle-like leaves and abundant bell shaped, urn shaped or tubular flowers. All heaths and heathers need excellent drainage and acid soil.

Sandy soil with peat moss is usually good, heavy clay is usually fatal.

Feed heaths and heathers in early spring with acid fertilizer or compost, mix in lightly.

They are not heavy feeders. Plants should never dry out, but do not keep them too moist either.

They like sun to partly cool shade area. Prune plants after blooming to keep neatly trimmed and in shape.

If chosen correctly between varieties, you can have color year-round.

Blooming time is usually 8-10 weeks from beginning to end.

Tree heaths are very tolerant of alkaline and acid soils. Heaths need to be pruned in youth so that they can become bushy when they mature. Be careful of heavy snowfall, branches can damage easily.

| Variety | Color | Bloom Time | Height |
|---|-------------------------------|-------------|--|
| <i>Calluna vulgaris - Scotch Heath</i> | | | |
| Allegro | Ruby | July-Oct | Upright 18" |
| Aurea | Mauve | Aug-Oct | Bushy 12" |
| Firefly | Deep mauve | Aug-Sep | 20" tall & wide |
| Flamingo | Lavender w/red spring foliage | Aug-Sep | Compact 10-12" |
| H.E. Beale | Double shell pink | Aug-Oct | Upright 24" |
| Red Fred | Lilac pink | Aug-Sep | 12-14", spreads 18" |
| Robert Chapman | Lavender | Aug-Oct | Upright 12", spreads 25" |
| Silver Knight | Lavender | July-Oct | Upright 20" |
| Spring Cream | White/new tips, cream/yellow | Aug-Nov | Upright 15" |
| Spring Torch | Mauve/new tips, pink/red | Aug-Oct | Upright 20" |
| <i>Erica arborea - Tree Heath</i> | | | |
| Estrella Gold | White | March-April | Bushy 4-6", spreads 3" |
| Terminalis | Lilac pink | July-Oct | Bushy 6-8" 1/30/2024 |
| <i>Erica carnea - Winter Heath</i> | | | |
| December Red | Pink to heliotrope | Nov-April | Spreads 6-8", Orange tips |
| King George | Deep rich pink | Dec-April | Bushy to 15" |
| Myretown Ruby | Heliotrope to crimson | Jan-May | Spreads 8" |
| Pink Spangle | Shell pink | Jan-May | Spreads 9-12" |
| Pirbright Rose | Heliotrope | Dec-April | Spreads 6-8" |
| Ruby Glow | Magenta | Jan-May | Spreads 6-9" |
| Springwood Pink | Pink | Jan-May | Low 8" |
| Springwood White | White | Jan-May | Low 8" |
| Vivellii | Magenta, heliotrope | Jan-May | Bushy 9" |
| Wintersonne | Rosy pink | Jan-May | Bushy, compact 6-8", Spreads 18-20" |

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| Variety | Color | Bloom Time | Height |
|--|---------------------------|------------|--------------------------|
| <i>Erica cinerea - Bell Heather</i> | | | |
| C.D. Eason | Bright magenta | June-Sept | Spreading bush 9" |
| <i>Erica darleyensis - Winter Heath</i> | | | |
| Darley Dale (Med Pink) | Deep pink | Sept-May | Bushy 15-18" |
| Furzey | Lilac pink | Nov-May | Spreads 15" |
| Ghost Hills | Pink heliotrope | Jan-May | Bushy 18" |
| Jenny Porter | Lilac | Jan-May | Spreads 8-10" |
| Kramer's Red | Magenta | Jan-April | Bushy 15" |
| Margaret Porter | Deep lilac | March-June | Spreads 8-10" |
| Mediterranean Pink | Shell to deep pink | Sept-March | 15-18" tall, spreads 36" |
| Mediterranean White | White | Oct-May | 15-18" tall, spreads 36" |
| Silberschmelze (Med. White) | White | Oct-May | Bushy 15-18" |
| <i>Erica vagans - Cornish Heath</i> | | | |
| Lyonesse | White w/pale brown anther | July-Oct | 12" tall, spreads 20" |
| Mrs. D.F. Maxwell | Deep rose pink | July-Oct | Bushy 18" |

This list is not necessarily what we carry but to be used for reference in planning your heath and/or heather garden. Not all varieties are available at all times.

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