



Fact Sheet

Magnolias

Magnolias are native to America, East Asia and the Himalayas, and are named after Pierre Magnol, famed director of Montpellier Botanical Gardens 2 centuries ago.

Magnolias make excellent garden specimens, preferably planted in slight shade with a cool root run protected from prevailing winds. Plant in rich moist free draining soil, neutral or slightly acid enriched with plenty of organic matter such as peat moss, rotted animal manure or leaf litter. Mulch after planting and during periods of dryness with composted bark or pea straw. Water deeply quite often.

No pruning should be required other than removing damaged limbs or to shape. Once established magnolias are not easily transplanted. Fertilize twice yearly with a complete fertiliser.

Edna Walling, Australia's most famous garden designer/landscaper said of *Magnolia soulangiana* in a 1939 Australian Home Beautiful and reproduced in 'The Vision of Edna Walling' by Trisha Dixon and Jennie Churchill 'Why so few magnolias? When in bloom *Magnolia soulangiana* never fails to make one halt before the beauty of its blooms; the single fair and mighty blossoms against the background of bare and grey stalks is a never to be forgotten sight.....

Magnolia lilliflora is used medicinally in China. The buds are ground up and used to relieve headaches. For runny noses the flower is pulverized then melded into a shape that is inserted into the nostril to act as a "plug".

Magnolia officinalis is used in Central China, here the bark of young trees, twenty to thirty years old is used for respiratory congestion. The extract has anti-bacterial qualities, particularly useful against salmonella poisoning.

Listed below are some of the more popular Magnolia varieties.

Magnolia liliiflora

Nigra - (Purple Lily Magnolia)

A dwarf magnolia. Suitable for small and average sized gardens, with shrubby, erect growth. The flowers have the deepest purple outer surface, and are white within.
2m wide x 3m high in 10 years.

Magnolia loebneri

Leonard Messell

Large shrub or small tree. Attractive fuchsia-purple buds open to a lovely pink, star-shaped flower. The darkest star-shaped flower to date.
2.5mw x 2.5mh in 10 years.



Magnolia soulangiana

Alba Superba

Beautiful tulip-shaped flowers, white, faint pink flush at base. 2mw x 2.5mh in 10 years.

Magnolia soulangiana

Burgundy Glow

Deep pinkish-purple and white tulip shaped flowers. Mid spring flowering.
Fragrantly perfumed. 2.5mw x 3.5mh in 10 years.

Magnolia soulangiana

Lennei

Massive balloon-shaped flowers, richly fragrant with a deep purple outer surface, and white inner surface. 2.5mw x 3mh in 10 years.



Magnolia stellata

(Star Magnolia)

Multi-branched compact bush Pure white star-shaped flowers in profusion.
Excellent for smaller gardens or tubs. 1.5mw x 1.5mh in 10 years.

Magnolia stellata

Rosea

Multi-branched compact bush. Pink in bud. The star-shaped flowers open to a light pink and fade to almost white as they age. Excellent for the smaller garden or tubs.
1.5mw x 1.5mh in 10 years.

Magnolia x Ballerina

Small compact bush, heavily branched. Free flowering fragrant star shaped flowers with white sepals flushed pink at the base. An excellent magnolia for the smaller garden.
1.5mw x 1.5mh in 10 years.

Magnolia x Royal Crown

Outstanding large, red-violet flowers held upright. A free flowering vigorous grower. Flowers sparsely in early spring, followed by a strong main flush, then easing in late spring. Extremely long flowering period. 2.5mw x 3m h in 10 years.

Magnolia *soulangiana* Pink

Beautiful purplish-pink and white tulip shaped flowers. Early spring flowering and fragrantly perfumed. The original classic. 2.5w x 3mh in 10 years.

Magnolia x Heaven Scent

Vigorous small erect tree, large fragrant flowers, dappled pinkish lavender. A very beautiful new form. 2mw x 3mh in 10 years.

Magnolia *grandiflora***Little Gem**

Beautiful small to medium evergreen with narrow glossy deep green leaves that have a bronze velvet underside. Creamy white perfumed flowers in the summer and autumn. Flowers at a very young age. Extremely popular overseas for tubs and smaller gardens. 3mh x 1.5mw in 10 years.

Magnolia x Ricky

Red-purple flowers that twist unusually. Very compact habit. Excellent for smaller gardens. 2mw x 2.5mh in 10 years. *Magnolia soulangiana*

Rustica Rubra

Excellent magnolia, vigorous grower with deep, red-purple goblet shaped flowers. 2.5mw x 3.5mh in 10 years.

