Big Ben Hydrangea

Hydrangea paniculata 'Big Ben'



Big Ben Hydrangea in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 19 feet

Spread: 10 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: 3a

Description:

A large showy garden shrub valued for its cone-shaped panicles of elegant white flowers which appear in mid-summer, blooms well in shade; somewhat coarse in appearance, regular pruning recommended; needs slightly acidic well-drained soil

Ornamental Features

Big Ben Hydrangea features bold conical white flowers with creamy white overtones at the ends of the branches from mid summer to late fall, which emerge from distinctive light green flower buds. The flowers are excellent for cutting. It has green deciduous foliage. The pointy leaves do not develop any appreciable fall color.

Landscape Attributes

Big Ben Hydrangea is a multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively coarse texture can be used to stand it apart from other landscape plants with finer foliage.

This shrub will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Big Ben Hydrangea is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use

Planting & Growing

Big Ben Hydrangea will grow to be about 19 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 10 feet. It tends to be a little leggy, with a typical clearance of 2 feet from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 40 years or more.

This shrub performs well in both full sun and full shade. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.