



Common Frangipani

Plumeria rubra var. acutifolia

Height: 15 feet

Spread: 15 feet

Sunlight:  

Hardiness Zone: 9b

Other Names: Nosegay, Temple Tree, Mexican Plumeria

Description:

A popular shrub or small tree, producing showy white flower clusters over deep green contrasting foliage ; often used as a patio plant; pruning required to maintain strong structure; parts of this plant are known to be toxic

Ornamental Features

Common Frangipani features showy clusters of fragrant white trumpet-shaped flowers with yellow throats at the ends of the branches from mid summer to mid fall. It has dark green foliage with light green undersides. The pointy leaves do not develop any appreciable fall color.

Landscape Attributes

Common Frangipani 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 should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Insects

Common Frangipani is recommended for the following landscape applications;



Common Frangipani flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Common Frangipani in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



- Accent
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Common Frangipani will grow to be about 15 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 15 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 approximately 30 years.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist locations, and should do just fine under average home landscape conditions. It is considered to be drought-tolerant, and thus makes an ideal choice for xeriscaping or the moisture-conserving landscape. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in sandy soils, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This species is not originally from North America, and parts of it are known to be toxic to humans and animals, so care should be exercised in planting it around children and pets. It can be propagated by cuttings.

Common Frangipani makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor pots and containers. Its large size and upright habit of growth lend it for use as a solitary accent, or in a composition surrounded by smaller plants around the base and those that spill over the edges. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when grown in a container, it may not perform exactly as indicated on the tag - this is to be expected. Also note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.



Common Frangipani bark
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder