Outdoor Tree & Shrub Care Guides



CAMELLIAS



Why We Love Camellias:

Camellias have been cultivated for ornamental gardens in Japan and China for over a thousand years, and in the west for hundreds of years. Their luxurious flowers are truly show-stopping, and they make great hedges too! With enough TLC, Camellias can live for decades.

FACTS

Grow Zone: 6 - 10 Family: Theaceae

Genus: Camellia

Native To: Indonesia, East

Asia, Himalayas Mature Height: 3' - 12'

Mature Width: 3' - 12'

Type: Evergreen shrub or multi-stem tree

Growth Habit: Upright

Foliage: Simple Alternating Elliptic, with Thick, Dark Green Leaves

Flowers: Fragrant & showy, with single, semi-double, double, anemone, formal double, or paeony forms. Bloom in fall or spring. Pink, red, yellow, or white.

Propagation: Cuttings, Seeds

LIGHT

Blooms are best in partial shade morning light and afternoon shade is ideal More established plants can handle more direct light than younger ones.

WATER

Prefers even water when young, tolerant of dry conditions once established (3+ years).

Cannot sit in stagnant water, needs well draining soil.

SOIL

Mildly Acidic, Well draining soil. Amend soil well when first planting to improve drainage. Fertilize once every 2 months after blooms are spent, stop fertilizing by early fall.

FYI: Camellias benefit from regular pruning with very clean shears. Most are bred for flowers but some are grown for foliage. One variety in particular, C. sinensis • Camellia sasanqua (Fall Camellias) • C. sasanqua 'Kanjiro' is Tea - the same plant famously dumped in Boston.

Call & visit for more tips:



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INTERESTING VARIETIES:

- Camellia japonica (Spring Camellias) C. sasanqua 'Moonshadow'
- Camellia sinensis (Tea)
- Camellia x williamsii
- C. sasangua 'Shi-Shi Gashira'
- C. sasangua 'Yuletide'

- C. japonica 'Kramer's Suppreme'
- C. japonica 'White-by-the-Gate'
- C. japonica 'Professor Sargent'
- C. japonica 'Debutante'
- C. japonica 'April Dawn'