Peony Emile Debatene

Use: Excellent background plant for spring bulbs, or use in perennial or shrub borders. Choice cut flowers. Once they're established, they're as hardy and dependable as oaks, creating a fantastic season of bloom in your yard year after year. The spreading clumps form hedges. Peonies are a standard of the perennial border, both as specimens and in groups. Also effective as accents or herbaceous hedges along fences, sidewalks, driveways or walls. Flowers are extremely showy, and foliage remains attractive throughout the growing season, either alone or as a frame or backdrop for other flowering perennials. Excellent cut flower.

Exposure/Soil: Full sun–light shade (not deep shade); Water regularly, when top 3” of soil is dry. Use slow release fertilizer twice a year in spring and fall. Once established needs only occasional water. In very hot summers it may go summer dormant.

Growth: Grows 1.5-2’ tall and 3” wide. Most peonies need the flowers staked.

Hardiness: 3-8; Perennial

Foliage: Deciduous. Dark green lobed leaves.

Flowers: Spectacular double salmon-pink, rose-shaped blooms are displayed on the bold, erect stems of this clumping perennial.

Tips: Plant them shallow, mulch in the summer, take off the mulch in the winter, and they prefer a little afternoon shade. Cold winters will ensure lots of blossoms so plant them where they will get cold in the winter.

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