Little Kitten Dwarf Maiden Grass

Miscanthus sinensis 'Little Kitten'



Little Kitten Dwarf Maiden Grass
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Plant Height: 24 inches

Flower Height: 3 feet

Spread: 18 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4b

Other Names: Japanese Silver Grass

Description:

Dwarf type that has a neat, mounded habit, great for small spaces and containers; loved for its silky, delicate plumes that sway in the wind; can be left as an accent througout the winter

Ornamental Features

Little Kitten Dwarf Maiden Grass features bold plumes of white flowers rising above the foliage from late summer to late fall. The flowers are excellent for cutting. The harvest gold seed heads are carried on showy plumes displayed in abundance from mid fall to late winter. Its grassy leaves are green in color. As an added bonus, the foliage turns a gorgeous gold in the fall.

Landscape Attributes

Little Kitten Dwarf Maiden Grass is an herbaceous perennial with a mounded form. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. It is a good choice for attracting birds to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.



Little Kitten Dwarf Maiden Grass foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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Little Kitten Dwarf Maiden Grass is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Little Kitten Dwarf Maiden Grass will grow to be about 24 inches tall at maturity extending to 3 feet tall with the flowers, with a spread of 18 inches. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 20 years. As an herbaceous perennial, this plant will usually die back to the crown each winter, and will regrow from the base each spring. Be careful not to disturb the crown in late winter when it may not be readily seen!

This plant does best in full sun to partial shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Little Kitten Dwarf Maiden Grass is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its height, it is often used as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants 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 growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.