



Common Chives
Allium schoenoprasum

Plant Height: 12 inches

Flower Height: 18 inches

Spread: 12 inches

Sunlight: ☉

Hardiness Zone: 3a

Other Names: Flowering Onion

Edible Qualities

Common Chives is a perennial herb that is typically grown for its edible qualities. The entire above-ground parts of the plant are edible, and are usually harvested from early summer to late fall. The edible parts have a zesty taste.

The plant is most often used in the following ways:

- Fresh Eating
- Cooking
- Drying
- Seasoning
- Sauces

Features & Attributes

Common Chives has masses of beautiful balls of lightly-scented lavender flowers at the ends of the stems from late spring to early summer, which are most effective when planted in groupings. Its grassy leaves remain green in color throughout the season. The green fruits are held in abundance in spectacular clusters.



Common Chives flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Common Chives in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

This is an open herbaceous perennial herb with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage. This is a high maintenance plant that will require regular care and upkeep, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Invasive
- Self-Seeding



Common Chives
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Aside from its primary use as an edible, Common Chives is suitable for the following landscape applications;

- General Garden Use
- Herb Gardens

Planting & Growing

Common Chives will grow to be about 12 inches tall at maturity extending to 18 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 12 inches. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 5 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 is typically grown in a designated herb garden. It should only be grown in full sunlight. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It is not particular as to soil type or pH, 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. It can be propagated by division.

Sizes available:

3.5" CONT \$3.99