

Blue Star Juniper

Juniperus squamata 'Blue Star'



Attractive sparkling blue foliage on dense spreading branches. Creates a colorful contrast to purple and green foliage plants. Use as a rock garden or low border plant. Evergreen.

Botanical Pronunciation:	ju-NIP-er-us skwah-MAH-ta
Key feature:	Easy Care Plant
Plant types:	Groundcover, Conifer
Deciduous/evergreen:	Evergreen
Cold hardiness zones:	4 - 8
Light needs:	Full sun
Water Needs:	Once established, needs only occasional watering.
Average landscape size:	Slow growing 2 to 3 ft. tall, 3 to 4 ft. wide.
Growth rate:	Slow
Growth habit:	Spreading
Special features:	Attracts Birds, Deer Resistant, Dramatic Foliage Color, Easy Care, Waterwise
Landscape uses:	Border, Mass Planting, Rock Garden, Seacoast Exposure, Topiary
Blooms:	Does not flower
Foliage color:	Silver-blue

Care Information

Follow a regular watering schedule during the first growing season to establish a deep, extensive root system. Watering can be reduced after establishment. Feed with a general purpose fertilizer before new growth begins in spring.

Design Ideas

This icy blue Juniper spreads but is not ground hugging. Instead it makes graceful wide mounds that are particularly lovely as individual specimens in fields of gravel or bark or as a groundcover. A good

choice for banks and rock gardens, where it grows gracefully around landscape boulders. Adds accent to a mass of flatter Juniper used for erosion control on banks and slopes. Particularly lovely in raised or seatwall planters.

Companion Plants

Burgundy-red foliage and bark plants such as Dogwood, Weigela, and Ninebark complement the blue-gray evergreen needles of this plant. Plant alongside berry producers like Cotoneaster and Holly for color and texture interest in fall and winter.

History

Sometimes referred to as the Flaky or Himalayan Juniper, it is native to the Himalaya and China. Blue Star is a sport of *Juniperus squamata* 'Meyeri'. The wood is very fragrant when burned and is used as firewood and incense.