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Chateau<sup>™</sup> de Versailles Rose of Sharon *Hibiscus syriacus 'Minsyble9'* 

Height: 6 feet Spread: 4 feet Sunlight: **O O** Hardiness Zone: 5 Other Names: Shrub Althea Group/Class: Chateau Series **Description:** 

Large blue-violet blooms with deep red-violet centers are plentiful and extremely showy along the branches throughout the summer; a stiffly upright shrub with a vase shaped habit; a very adaptable plant, but prefers full sun



Chateau de Versailles Rose of Sharon flowers Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

## **Ornamental Features**

Chateau de Versailles Rose of Sharon features bold blue round flowers with violet overtones and burgundy centers along the branches from early summer to early fall. The flowers are excellent for cutting. It has green deciduous foliage. The lobed leaves do not develop any appreciable fall color.

## Landscape Attributes

Chateau de Versailles Rose of Sharon is a multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with an indistinguished habit of growth. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.

This is a high maintenance shrub 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 bees, butterflies and hummingbirds 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;

- Insects
- Disease

Chateau de Versailles Rose of Sharon is recommended for the following landscape applications;

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

## **Planting & Growing**

Chateau de Versailles Rose of Sharon will grow to be about 6 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 4 feet. It tends to be a little leggy, with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 40 years or more.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. To help this plant achive its best flowering performance, periodically apply a flower-boosting fertilizer from early spring through into the active growing season. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. 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.

Chateau de Versailles Rose of Sharon makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use 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 grown in a container, it may not perform exactly as indicated on the tag - this is to be expected. Also note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.

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