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## Russian Princess Lobelia

*Lobelia 'Russian Princess'*

Plant Height: 20 inches

Flower Height: 30 inches

Spread: 18 inches

Spacing: 15 inches

Sunlight: 

Hardiness Zone: 4

Other Names: Cardinal Flower

### Ornamental Features

Russian Princess Lobelia features showy spikes of cherry red flowers rising above the foliage from mid summer to early fall. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its attractive glossy pointy leaves emerge red in spring, turning burgundy in color throughout the season. The burgundy stems are very colorful and add to the overall interest of the plant.

### Landscape Attributes

Russian Princess Lobelia is an herbaceous perennial with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its medium texture blends into the garden, but can always be balanced by a couple of finer or coarser plants for an effective composition.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. It is a good choice for attracting butterflies and hummingbirds to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Russian Princess Lobelia is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use

### Planting & Growing

Russian Princess Lobelia will grow to be about 20 inches tall at maturity extending to 30 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 18 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 15 inches apart. 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!



*Russian Princess Lobelia*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



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This plant should be grown in a location with partial shade. Keep it away from hot, dry locations that receive direct afternoon sun or which get reflected sunlight, such as against the south side of a white wall. It is quite adaptable, preferring to grow in average to wet conditions, and will even tolerate some standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid, and parts of it are known to be toxic to humans and animals, so care should be exercised in planting it around children and pets. 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.

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