

Camellias

Camellias are evergreen trees or shrubs native to eastern and southern Asia. They are a very popular plant in this area due to their dark green foliage and beautiful flowers. In general, camellias need well-drained soil, rich in organic matter. They prefer partial shade and shelter from dry winds. They should be planted with their trunk base above the soil line and should never have soil or mulch material covering the base. Established plants can survive on natural rainfall. Fertilize with an acid plant food in the weeks and months after blooming. Prune right after the blooming period is over or during the summer and fall. Camellias can be grown as specimen trees, as shrubs, hedges, in containers or as espaliers and bonsai. In the Pacific Northwest the two most commonly planted camellias are the *C. japonica* and the *C. sasanqua*.

Camellia hiemalis: These plants differ from the sasanquas in that their flowering period is later and longer and that the flowers are more heavily textured.

Camellia japonica: This is the most widely grown camellia. It is a naturally small tree or shrub, usually growing only to 6-12' but with age may reach up to 20'. Peak blooming time occurs between December and May depending upon the variety. Flowers are single, double, peony or rose form and come in shades of white, pink, red and variegated. Most japonica varieties, with age, will tolerate sun.

Camellia sasanqua: This is usually a smaller growing shrub than the *C. japonica* reaching not more than 2-10' tall, depending upon the variety. They vary in form from upright to vine-like to low and bushy. *C. sasanqua*, often called the winter blooming camellia, blooms from late fall into early spring. Many of the varieties are fragrant. *C. sasanqua* is a profuse bloomer though the flowers are more delicate. If planted in a protected area the blooms will last longer. *C. sasanqua* can be planted in full sun. Use as a low hedge, espalier or grow in a container. You may see *Camellia vernalis* or *hiemalis* listed among the sasanqua varieties. These were formerly listed as sasanquas but were given new names because of their later blooming time and slightly different foliage. *C. sasanqua* flowers can be single or semi-double and come in shades of white, pink, red and variegated.

Camellia vernalis: These plants also differ from the sasanquas in that they have a later blooming period, denser growth and shinier leaves than the *C. sasanqua*.

Variety	Color	Bloom	Size	Habit	Sun
Camellia hiemalis					
Shishi Gashira	Semi-Double Rose Red	Oct-Feb	2'-4'	Low Spread	X
Showa-No-Saka	Semi-Double Soft Pink	Oct-Dec	"	Low Spread	X
Camellia japonica					
Ave Maria	Double Silvery Pink	Dec-Feb	10'-15'	Compact	
Carters Sunburst	Large Double Pale Pink	Dec-Feb	"	Compact	
Chandleri Elegans	Large Anemone Rose Pink/White	Dec-Mar	"	Slow Spread	
C.M. Wilson	Large Anemone Light Pink	Dec-Feb	"	Slow Spread	

Variety	Color	Bloom	Size	Habit	Sun
Camellia japonica (continued)					
Colonel Fiery	Medium Formal Double, Dark Red	Mar-Apr	10-15'	Slow Compact	
Coral Delight	Semi-Double Coral Pink	Mar-Apr	"	Slow Upright	
Debutante	Peony Shape Light Pink	Dec-Feb	"	Vigorous Upright	
Elegans Splendor	Blush Pink With White	Mar-Apr	"	Slow Spread	
Freedombell	Coral Red	Feb-Mar	"	Vigorous Upright	
Grand Prix	Very Large, Semi-Double, Red	Mar-Apr	"	Vigorous Upright	
In The Pink	Double Rose Pink	Mar-May	"	Compact	
Kramer's Supreme	Large Peony Red	Mar-Apr	"	Vigorous Compact	X
Magnolia Flora	Semi-Double Blush Pink	Mar-Apr	10'-12'	Upright	
Maria Bracey	Semi-Double Coral Rose	Dec-Feb	10'-15'	Compact	
Mathotiana Supreme	Very Large Double Red	Mar-Apr	"	Compact	
Mrs. Charles Cobb	Semi-Double Dark Red	Mar-Apr	"	Vigorous Spread	
Mrs. Tingley	Double Salmon-Silvery Pink	Mar-May	"	Compact	
Nuccio's Gem	Medium-Large Brilliant White	Mar-Apr	"	Vigorous Compact	
Nuccio's Pearl	Medium-Double White W/Orchid	Mar-Apr	"	Slow Upright	
Pearl Maxwell	Double Shell Pink	Mar-May	"	Vigorous Compact	
Pink Parade	Large, Semi-Double, Raspberry/Pink	Dec-Feb	10'-12'	Upright	
Pope Pius IX	Double Cherry Red	Mar-Apr	10'-15'	Compact	
Scentsation	Large Fragrant Pink	Mar-Apr	"	Compact	
Silver Waves	Very Large Semi-Double White	Dec-Mar	"	Vigorous Bushy	
Swan Lake	Semi-Double Large, Snow White	Jan-Mar	5'-10'	Slow, Upright	
Tom Knudson	Medium-Large Double Dark Red	Dec-Mar	"	Vigorous Compact	
Camellia sasanqua					
Apple Blossom	Large Single White With Red	Dec-Jan	6'-10'	Upright	X
Bonanza	Deep Red Peony Form	Oct-Dec	"	Low Spread	X
Chansonette	Large Bright Pink Ruffle	Dec-Feb	"	Cascading	X
Cleopatra	Semi-Double Rose Pink	Oct-Dec	"	Bushy	X
Fairy Blush	Single Deep Pink	Nov-Jan	4'-5'	Compact	X
Hana Jiman	Semi-Double White With Pink	Dec-Feb	"	Open Growth	X
Jean May	Large Soft Pink Double	Oct-Dec	"	Upright	X
Kanjiro	Semi-Double Large Rose Pink	Oct-Dec	"	Upright	X
Marge Miller	Soft Pink	Oct-Dec	3'-4'	Spreading	X
Pink-A-Boo (MonDel)	Fragrant, Large Deep Pink	Oct-Dec	8'-10'	Vigorous	X
Setsugekka	Large Single White With Yellow	Oct-Jan	"	Bushy	X
Taylor's Perfection	Very Large Bright Pink	Dec-Jan	"	Bushy	X
White Dove	Large Double White	Oct-Jan	"	Bushy	X
Yuletide	Small Fiery Red With Yellow	Dec-Jan	"	Dense Small	X
Camellia sinensis	Tea Plant - White	Sept-Nov	4'-6'	Great for Hedge	
Camellia vernalis					
Hiryu	Small Profuse Deep Red	Dec-Feb	6'-10'		X
Camellia x hybrid					
April Remembered	Semi-Double, Cream to Pink	Nov-Mar	6'-8'	Shrub	
Bette Sette	Double, Medium Pink	Apr-May	"	Well branched	
Buttermint	Fragrant, Double, Mini, Pale Yellow	Mar-May	4'-6'	Compact	
Snow Flurry	Large Bright White	Sept-Oct	5'-6'	Shrub	
Springs Promise	Single, Rose-Red	Jan-Mar	6'-8'	Compact	
Survivor	Small Single White	Nov-Jan	"	Moderate Growth	
Winter's Snowman	Semi-Double, Pink Buds, Open White	Nov-Dec	10'-12'	Small Tree	
Winter's Star	Single, Pink With Yellow Stamen	Oct-Nov	6'	Compact	