

Bleeding Heart

Dicentra spectabilis

This old-fashioned spring-blooming perennial flower has pink or white heart-shaped blooms that hang along arching stems. The plant grows 2-3 feet tall and wide. The soft green foliage remains attractive until the plant goes dormant in late summer.

Bleeding heart is easy to grow in moist, well-drained humus soil in part shade — such as a shaded border or woodland garden. Because the foliage goes dormant, it is best to plant bleeding heart among later developing perennials such as hostas and ferns which will fill in as the bleeding heart foliage begins to die back. Drought will send the plant into early dormancy.

Fringed bleeding heart (*Dicentra eximilis*) is smaller and finer textured, with upright flowers, but will maintain foliage all summer.



Provided by
wimastergardener.org



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Additional Resources

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- Article on MG website at <http://wimastergardener.org/article/bleeding-heart-dicentra-spectabilis/>
- UW-Extension / Boerner Botanical Garden Plant Fact Sheet *Zestful Fringed Bleeding Heart* at <https://hort.uwex.edu/articles/fringed-bleeding-heart/>
- UW-Extension / Boerner Botanical Garden Plant Fact Sheet *Gold Bleeding Heart*, at <https://hort.uwex.edu/articles/gold-heart-bleeding-heart/>

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