

Harlequin Butterfly Bush



Buddleia davidii 'Harlequin'

Once established butterfly bushes are drought tolerant. They are deer resistance and great for woodland gardens.



- **Use:** Spectacular summer color from reddish-purple flower spikes. Terrific fragrance attracts butterflies. Good background or accent plant with the added bonus of variegated leaves. Blooms continuously from summer until frost. An excellent deer resistant, non-invasive, and waterwise shrub for mass plantings, or accenting sunny beds and borders.
- **Exposure/Soil:** Cold, wet winters can be really hard on buddleia, so here are a few tips to help your buddleia thrive in your garden: 1. Make sure the soil is well-drained. 2. Full sun. That's at least 6 hours. No cheating. 3. Wait until it leafs out in spring before pruning. In some years you may have to prune it back to the ground. After milder winters, maybe not so much. Avoid fall pruning.
- **Growth:** Fast growing to 4 to 6 ft. tall, 3 to 5 ft. wide.
- **Hardiness:** Zone 4-9; Shrub
- **Foliage:** Deciduous. Because Harlequin Butterfly Bush is a sport and not a true variety, instead of cream and green leaves it will occasionally grow some stems with only solid green leaves as it tries to revert back to Royal Red. These should be cut off when spotted so the bush maintains its variegated characteristics.
- **Flower:** Nonstop large 1' long fragrant, purple flower heads from May until frost. Buddleias emit a special honey-scented fragrance that lures butterflies like a moth to a light, and then once there, they find the flowers super-rich in nectar.

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