Aphrodite Kiss Peony
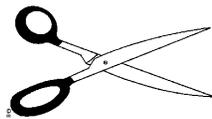
A very long-lived perennial that will impress for years, maybe even decades

Paeonia lactiflora 'Aphrodite Kiss'

- **_Use:_** First offered in 2003, 'Aphrodite's Kiss' is a mid-season peony sporting seven inch, bomb-type blossoms, with bold, white guard petals, and a relaxed center opening with hints of cream and yellow. This peony has excellent stem strength with an average height of only 24 inches, excellent quality foliage, and lots of style and class! Slightly fragrant. Peonies are classic garden plants that add a bit of nostalgia and charm to the garden. Their fragrant blooms and lush foliage have made them popular for years, and with the recent resurgence in breeding, they will continue to improve. Peonies are simple to grow once established and can be utilized in many ways, including mass plantings, specimens, or hedges. **WE LOVE PEONIES, BUT THEY ARE NOT A BEGINNER PLANT! LOTS OF RESEARCH NEEDED AND SOIL PREP FOR SUCCESS!**
- **_Exposure/Soil:_** Morning sun and a little afternoon shade preferred (not deep shade); Water regularly, when top 3" of soil is dry. Use slow release fertilizer twice a year in spring and fall. Once established needs only occasional water. In very hot summers it may go summer dormant. SOIL is very important and must be well drained and have a pH of 6.5-7 so Georgia clay will need to be amended with Lime.
- **_Growth:_** Grows 2 feet tall (a sturdy plant less likely to need staking) and 2' 6" wide.
- **_Hardiness:_** Zone 3-8; Perennial
- **_Foliage:_** Deciduous. Dark green lobed leaves.
- **_Flowers:_** Large bomb blossom with pure white guard petals and rather loose bomb center which opens with hits of yellow and cream.
- **_Tips_:** Plant them shallow, mulch in the summer, take off the mulch in the winter, and they prefer a little afternoon shade. Cold winters will ensure lots of blossoms so plant them where they will get cold in the winter and cool in the summer too.

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