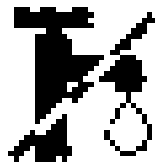


# October Affair Camellia



## *Camellia japonica* 'October Affair'

- **Use:** With a long bloom period in the South from November to March, the October Affair Camellia is one that deserves a spot in every garden. Backed by lustrous deep green leaves, the large double flowers up to 5 inches in diameter come in several variations of petal arrangement, form. Some flowers will have more petals than others and some will be white or cream at the center transitioning to light to dark pink around the edges. The bud center often becomes pink as the flower ages producing a tricolor effect. The gorgeous flowers are perfect for cutting and use in flower arrangements or float just one in a bowl of water.
- **Exposure/Soil:** Camellias grow best in partial shade -- they do not prefer early morning or late afternoon sun. Red blooming cultivars are more sun tolerant than white or pink flowering cultivars. In the winter camellias need protection from direct sun and drying winds as well. A planting site under tall pine trees or on the north or west side of a building is ideal. Plants grown in full sun may develop leaf scorch. Its best to not fertilize the first growing season and over fertilization causes plant to be less compact. Good drainage is critical so amend any heavy clay soils.
- **Growth:** Moderate growing to 8 to 12 ft. tall and 6-8' wide.
- **Hardiness:** Zone 7a-9b, Shrub
- **Foliage:** Evergreen, glossy leaves.
- **Flower:** One of the earliest large flowering Japonica Camellias to begin flowering, October Affair produces an abundance of perfectly formed, 3-4" wide, fully double flowers with cupped petals that are pure white at their center but with the outer rows of petals becoming tipped in light to rosy pink.

**Pictured is the most unusual flower form we've seen yet on this variable beauty. Add interest to your winter garden with Camellias. A collector's item for sure!**

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