

Purple Coneflower

Echinacea purpurea

This showy, drought tolerant perennial is native to prairie communities of the Midwestern and southeastern US. Its daisy-like flowers are 3-4" across with soft lavender or purple petals surrounding an iridescent red-orange, coned center. Established clumps grow 2-3 feet tall. The large, fragrant flowers bloom all summer and are attractive to butterflies and bees. Several cultivars are available in different heights and flower sizes, as well as some with white petals and newer ones in shades of orange or yellow.



Purple coneflower grows best in full sun and fertile, well-drained soils. It is easy to grow the native type from seed (and it self-seeds readily), but cultivars must be purchased. It is deer-resistant and has few pests.

Provided by
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Additional Resources

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- Article on the Missouri Botanic Garden's Kemper Center for Home Gardening website, *Echinacea purpurea*, at <http://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/PlantFinder/PlantFinderDetails.aspx?kempercode=c580>
- Plant Profile for *Echinacea purpurea*, eastern purple coneflower on the USDA-NRCS Plants Database website at <http://www.plants.usda.gov/core/profile?symbol=ECPU>

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