



# HOMESTEAD GARDENS

## Plant FINDER

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### Carnival Watermelon Coral Bells

*Heuchera 'Watermelon'*

Plant Height: 12 inches

Flower Height: 18 inches

Spread: 14 inches

Spacing: 10 inches

Sunlight: ○ ● ●

Hardiness Zone: 4a

Other Names: Coralbells, Alumroot

Group/Class: Carnival Series

#### Description:

Peach-pink new growth maturing to bronze-green; best color in cooler temperatures; great versatility; keep soil moist in heat of summer; grown primarily for foliage

#### Ornamental Features

Carnival Watermelon Coral Bells is primarily valued in the garden for its distinctive form, with the flower stalks towering over the foliage. Its attractive crinkled lobed leaves emerge peach in spring, turning grayish green in color with showy coppery-bronze variegation and tinges of pink the rest of the year.

#### Landscape Attributes

Carnival Watermelon Coral Bells is a dense herbaceous evergreen perennial with tall flower stalks held atop a low mound of foliage. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and should be cut back in late fall in preparation for winter. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Carnival Watermelon Coral Bells is recommended for the following landscape applications;



*Carnival Watermelon Coral Bells foliage*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



*Carnival Watermelon Coral Bells*  
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- Mass Planting
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Container Planting

### Planting & Growing

Carnival Watermelon Coral Bells will grow to be about 12 inches tall at maturity extending to 18 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 14 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 10 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. As an evergreen perennial, this plant will typically keep its form and foliage year-round.

This plant performs well in both full sun and full shade. However, you may want to keep it away from hot, dry locations that receive direct afternoon sun or which get reflected sunlight, such as against the south side of a white wall. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid. It can be propagated by division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Carnival Watermelon Coral Bells is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor pots and containers. It is often used as a 'filler' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, providing a canvas of foliage against which the larger thriller plants stand out. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.