Homestead Gardens Plant Finder

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Anna's Magic Ball® Arborvitae

Thuja occidentalis 'Anna Van Vloten'



Anna's Magic Ball Arborvitae
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 18 inches

Spread: 18 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 3a

Other Names: Eastern White Cedar

Description:

A spectacular dwarf evergreen shrub with very fine-textured yellow juvenile foliage that turns gold in winter; forms a compact ball shape without pruning; ideal for home garden use and in rock gardens; best with some sun, protect from drying winds



Anna's Magic Ball Arborvitae foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Ornamental Features

Anna's Magic Ball Arborvitae is a dwarf conifer which is primarily valued in the garden for its ornamental globe-shaped form. It has attractive yellow evergreen foliage. The ferny sprays of foliage are highly ornamental and turn gold in the fall, which persists throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Anna's Magic Ball Arborvitae is a dense multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a more or less rounded form. It lends an extremely fine and delicate texture to the landscape composition which should be used to full effect.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub. When pruning is necessary, it is recommended to only trim back the new growth of the current season, other than to remove any dieback. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Anna's Magic Ball Arborvitae is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- General Garden Use

Planting & Growing

Anna's Magic Ball Arborvitae will grow to be about 18 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 18 inches. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 30 years.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. 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, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selection of a native North American species.