

# HOMESTEAD GARDENS Plant FINDER

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Pretty Poppers® Goody Gumdrops Pinks Dianthus 'Goody Gumdrops'

Height: 10 inches Spread: 16 inches Spacing: 14 inches Sunlight: **O** Hardiness Zone: (annual) Other Names: Border Pinks, Cheddar Pinks Group/Class: Pretty Poppers Series

### **Description:**

Fuchsia-pink flowers with red eyes, above mounds of fine blue-green foliage really get attention; great for flower arrangements; deadhead to rebloom; pair up with summer blooming perennials and annuals to time a continued flower display



Pretty Poppers Goody Gumdrops Pinks flowers Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

## **Ornamental Features**

Pretty Poppers Goody Gumdrops Pinks is smothered in stunning fragrant semi-double fuchsia frilly flowers with red eyes at the ends of the stems from early summer to early fall. The flowers are excellent for cutting. Its attractive glossy narrow leaves remain bluish-green in color throughout the year.

### Landscape Attributes

Pretty Poppers Goody Gumdrops Pinks is an herbaceous annual with a mounded form. It brings an extremely fine and delicate texture to the garden composition and should be used to full effect.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant, and is best cleaned up in early spring before it resumes active growth for the season. It is a good choice for attracting bees and butterflies to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Pretty Poppers Goody Gumdrops Pinks is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Rock/Alpine Gardens
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting



## **Planting & Growing**

Pretty Poppers Goody Gumdrops Pinks will grow to be about 8 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 16 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 14 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain low and dense right to the ground. Although it's not a true annual, this plant can be expected to behave as an annual in our climate if left outdoors over the winter, usually needing replacement the following year. As such, gardeners should take into consideration that it will perform differently than it would in its native habitat.

This plant should only be grown in full sunlight. 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 highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. 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.

Pretty Poppers Goody Gumdrops Pinks 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 mass of flowers and foliage against which the 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.