Wishbone Flower

Torenia fournieri



Wishbone Flower flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 12 inches

Spread: 16 inches

Spacing: 12 inches

Sunlight: ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Other Names: Blue Wings, Monkey Flower

Ornamental Features

Wishbone Flower features showy powder blue tubular flowers with gold throats and violet edges along the stems from late spring to mid fall. Its small fragrant pointy leaves remain light green in color throughout the season.

Landscape Attributes

Wishbone Flower is an herbaceous annual with a trailing habit of growth, eventually spilling over the edges of hanging baskets and containers. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and should not require much pruning, except when necessary, such as to remove dieback. It is a good choice for attracting bees and hummingbirds 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.

Wishbone Flower is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Container Planting
- Hanging Baskets

Planting & Growing

Wishbone Flower will grow to be about 12 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 12 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. This fast-growing annual will normally live for one full growing season, needing replacement the following year.

This plant does best in partial shade to shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This species is not originally from North America. It can be propagated by cuttings.

Wishbone Flower is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor containers and hanging baskets. Because of its trailing habit of growth, it is ideally suited for use as a 'spiller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the edges where it can spill gracefully over the pot. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.