

# *Prunus serrulata* 'Pink Perfection'

## Japanese flowering cherry 'Pink Perfection'



*Prunus serrulata* 'Pink Perfection' (Japanese flowering cherry 'Pink Perfection') was selected by the British grower John Waterer, Sons and Crisp in 1935. It is a seedling of *Prunus serrulata* 'Shogetsu', with the perfect pink flower colour of its other parent, in all likelihood *Prunus serrulata* 'Kanzan'. Young specimens of the 'Pink Perfection' cultivar often do not have a clear habit due to the thin hanging branches, which are quite bare towards the bottom of the tree. When it is older, the cultivar has a much clearer vase-shaped but open crown. Grafting the naturally slow-growing *Prunus serrulata* 'Pink Perfection' on *Prunus avium* will help it grow much better. The tree will then reach a height of 5 - 8 metres, and a width of 3 - 5 metres.

The unopened dark pink buds colour the tree early on in the year and promise to make beautiful, very abundant blossoms in late April, early May. *Prunus serrulata* 'Pink Perfection' gets its name from its stuffed, lavishly blooming bright pink racemes. The young leaves bud bronze-green, which is an exact combination of the colours of both its parents. In summer, the leaves turn green and in autumn, they are a beautiful yellow-orange.

The 'Pink Perfection' cultivar is a gorgeous tree for gardens and, especially in groups, it is an asset to parks. When grafted high up, the selection can also be used as a small street tree. The shape of *Prunus serrulata* 'Pink Perfection' can be radically improved through clear pruning to guide it in its early stages. The tree will grow in any very permeable, nutrient-rich soil and prefers a sheltered, sunny location. As the tree mainly needs a lot of pruning to guide it in its younger years, it is wise to not plant *Prunus serrulata* 'Pink Perfection' too small.

### TYPES OF PLANTING

**Tree types:** standard trees, multi-stemmed trees, solitary shrubs | **Topiary on stem:** multi-stem umbrella

### USE

**Location:** street, park, central reservation, in containers, large garden, small garden, cemetery | **Pavement:** none, open

### CHARACTERISTICS

**Crown shape:** vase-shaped | **Crown structure:** semi-open | **Height:** 5 - 8 m | **Width:** 3 - 5 m | **Winter hardiness zone:** 6A - 8B

### ASPECTS

**Wind:** intolerant to wind | **Soil:** loess, sabulous clay, light clay, sand, loamy soil | **Nutrient level:** rich in nutrients | **Soil moisture level:** dry, moist | **Light requirements:** sun | **pH range:** neutral, alkaline (7.8 - 8.2)

### PLANTKENMERKEN

**Flowers:** raceme, striking, stuffed | **Flower colour:** pink | **Flowering period:** April - May | **Leaf colour:** buds bronze, green | **Leaves:** deciduous, ovoid, serrate | **Autumn colour:** yellow-orange | **Fruits:** rarely fruits, small, cherry | **Fruit colour:** red | **Bark colour:** dark brown | **Bark:** slightly furrowed | **Twig colour:** brown | **Twigs:** bare, with lenticels, pendulous, finely branched | **Root system:** shallow, slightly branched

