

**Emerald Goddess Gardens**  
**emeraldgoddessgardens.com**

Botanical Name	Lonicera japonica Purpurea
Common Name	Red Leaved Japanese Honeysuckle
Mature Size	20' + Runners
Bloom Color	Pink, White Fades to Yellow
Bloom Period	Late Spring Early Summer
Boom Form	Trumpets
Water	Very Drought Tolerant Once Established
Light	Full Sun or Light Shade
USDA Zone	4 to 10
Fragrance	Intense
Uses	Fences, Trellises, Supports, Ground Cover
Special Features	Quick to Establish, Highly Fragrant, Pretty Foliage



**Lonicera or Honeysuckle Vines** is among the best known, loved and widely grown plants in the United States. The genus is mostly native to Asia and was introduced into the Americas in the 1800s. Generally, the family is made of up of large group of more than 200 species of mostly woody, hollow stemmed vigorous growing twining vines that will scamper up, over, and around anything nearby. Many produce bountiful clusters of intensely fragrant elongated trumpet shaped flowers in the Spring.

The best use of *Honeysuckle Vine* is for quick cover for a fence, trellis, archway, or any support. It can also be used as ground cover, and is a great plant for erosion control on slopes, embankments, and other large areas that cannot be easily mowed, as it will quickly grow thick and wild and crowd out weeds.

The most common species is **Lonicera japonica** also known as **Japanese or Halls Honeysuckle**. **Lonicera japonica purpurea**, which is also known as **Red or Purple Leaved Honeysuckle**, is an improved cultivar of **Japanese Honeysuckle** that lush dark olive toned foliage with a dark purple to maroon toned reverse and vein.

**Purpurea** produces flowers each Spring that open as bright pink buds that open white with a slightly pink underside and fade to yellow, the flowers are equally as fragrant as the green leaved Japanese Honeysuckle, but somewhat more light, clean, and less cloying in their sweetness. The flowers are attractive to hummingbirds and butterflies. A small black berry follows the flower and provides food for other birds and wildlife, especially deer. It is also a bit better behaved, more dense, lush, with a slightly longer and more bountiful bloom cycle.

Direct planting of 4 inch starter size plants into the landscape is not generally recommended, so for the best results with your new Honeysuckle Vine, it should be repotted and allowed to grow larger before setting out into the landscape in Zones 4-11.

When the new pot has filled with roots, and the plant has grown larger, here are a few guidelines for successful growing:

- Plant in well draining soil that does not flood or become saturated seasonally.
- Select a location in the full sun.
- Supply minimal supplemental irrigation when establishing and during the dry season if needed.
- Feed a good quality slow release plant food at the time of initial planting and yearly thereafter.
- Prune for regularly to maintain size and contain to the planted area.
- Avoid pruning in the winter and very early spring, so as not to prune bud wood away.
- Maintain responsibly and do not allow escape from the designated planting area.
- Enjoy

For quick answers to your growing or planting questions, just email us at [emeraldgoddessgardens@gmail.com](mailto:emeraldgoddessgardens@gmail.com)

If you don't know your USDA Planting Zone, you can check the map on our website site at [emeraldgoddessgardens.com](http://emeraldgoddessgardens.com)

## ***Care of Your Honeysuckle Vine***

Here are a few basic guidelines for handling and caring for your new plant:

Check your the state, local and guidelines regarding any restrictions, prohibitions or recommendations regarding the planting of honeysuckle.

Direct planting of 4 inch starter size plants or plugs directly into landscape is not recommended, with a few exceptions. So, for the best results with your new plant we suggest that it be re-potted into a larger pot and allowed to grow larger until the new pot is filled with roots before setting out.

- Immediately re-pot the new plant into a 6 to 10 inch diameter pot ( a 6 inch pot is the recommended size for starter plugs) that can drain easily and thoroughly.
- Use a good quality commercial potting media.
- Apply a high quality, slow release plant food according to the label directions. DO NOT use hot, chemical fertilizes like 6-6-6 or 10-10-10.
- Provide a small trellis or stake for the plant to climb
- Locate so that the plant can receive direct, full spectrum light all day.
- Take care not to over water. The primary cause of problems with honeysuckles is high humidity, not enough light, over crowding and/or over watering. Signs of one or more of these problems is typically spotting and leaf drop, and thin spindled growth, and failure to flower.
- Moisture crystals can be recycled for other plants with high water needs, if desired, but do not reuse them for the honeysuckle.
- Be sure excess irrigation water can drain out of the pot quickly and completely. Do not allow the bottom of the pot does not sit submerged in water.
- Prune or pinch lightly and often when the plant is young and actively growing to strengthen the central stalk and encourage branching and build uniform shape.
- Protect from frost and freeze until very well established, as even cold hardy species can be damaged by freezing weather when young or not fully acclimated.
- Be a responsible gardener and keep honeysuckle well maintained and confined honeysuckle to the designated growing area.

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**\*Toxicity information generally known within the horticultural trade or gardening circles is provided for reference purposes only. Medical and/or Horticultural experts in the field of study should be consulted for scientifically validated, detailed or emergency information.**

*This plant is intended for use as an ornamental, decorative item only. Emerald Goddess Gardens does not recommend, endorse nor offer the product for any other use.*