



**Karen Azalea**  
*Rhododendron 'Karen'*

Height: 24 inches  
Spread: 3 feet  
Sunlight:    
Hardiness Zone: 4b

**Description:**

An extraordinary and stunning variety presenting multiple clusters of bright lavender-pink blooms on a hardy and dense compact shrub; a beautiful presentation as a garden focal point

**Ornamental Features**

Karen Azalea is bathed in stunning clusters of lightly-scented lilac purple trumpet-shaped flowers with pink overtones at the ends of the branches in mid spring before the leaves. It has dark green deciduous foliage. The narrow leaves do not develop any appreciable fall color.

**Landscape Attributes**

Karen Azalea is an open multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with a more or less rounded form. Its relatively coarse texture can be used to stand it apart from other landscape plants with finer foliage.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and should only be pruned after flowering to avoid removing any of the current season's flowers. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Karen Azalea is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use

**Planting & Growing**

Karen Azalea will grow to be about 24 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. It tends to be a little leggy, with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 40 years or more.



*Karen Azalea flowers*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. It requires an evenly moist well-drained soil for optimal growth, but will die in standing water. It is very fussy about its soil conditions and must have rich, acidic soils to ensure success, and is subject to chlorosis (yellowing) of the foliage in alkaline soils. 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 particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.

#### Growing Place Choice Plants

Our Growing Place Choice plants are chosen because they are strong performers year after year, staying attractive with less maintenance when planted in the right place.