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What Is Firewitch – How To Care For Firewitch Dianthus Plants

Dianthus

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Image by OKRAD

Oftentimes, I am asked by customers for specific plants only by description. For example, "I'm looking for a plant I saw that's grass-like but has little pink flowers." Naturally, cheddar pinks comes to my mind with a description like that. However, with so many varieties of cheddar pink aka [dianthus](#) I need to show them examples. Most times I find it is Firewitch

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What is Firewitch Dianthus?

Named the perennial plant of the year in 2006, Firewitch dianthus (*Dianthus gratianopolitanus* 'Firewitch') was actually created by a German horticulturist in 1957, where it was named Feuerhexe. In 1987, United States horticulturists began to propagate and grow Firewitch flowers and they have been a much-loved border plant for zones 3-9 ever since.

Blooming in May and June, their deep pink or magenta flowers are a beatific contrast against the blue-green, silvery grass-like foliage. The flowers are fragrant, smelling lightly like cloves. These fragrant flowers attract [butterflies](#) and [hummingbirds](#). Firewitch flowers hold up against heat and humidity more than most dianthus flowers.

Firewitch Dianthus Care

Because Firewitch dianthus grows only about six to eight inches (15 to 20.5 cm.) high and 12 inches (30.5 cm.) wide, it's excellent to use in [borders](#), [rock gardens](#), [on slopes](#), or even tucked into [crevices of rock walls](#).

Firewitch flowers are in the dianthus family, sometimes called cheddar pinks or border pinks. Firewitch dianthus plants grow best in full sun but can tolerate light shade.

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Give them well-drained, slightly sandy soil to avoid crown rot. Once established, the plants are drought tolerant. Firewitch plants are also deemed [deer resistant](#).

They prefer normal to light waterings. When watering, do not wet the foliage or crowns, as they may develop [crown rot](#).

Cut back Firewitch plants after blooms fade to promote reblooming. You can simply cut the grass-like foliage back with grass shears.

This article was last updated on 12/13/20

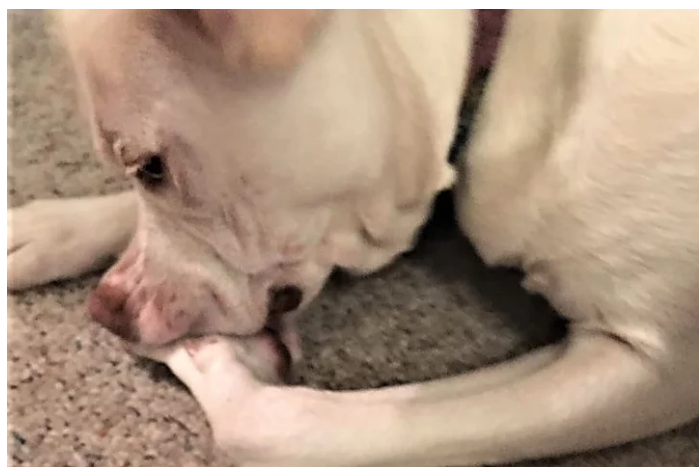
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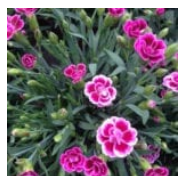


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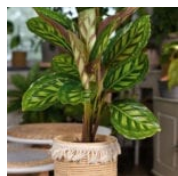
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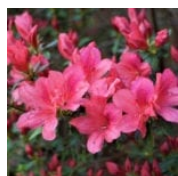
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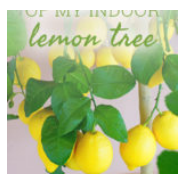
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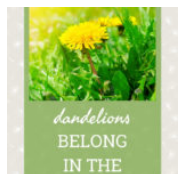
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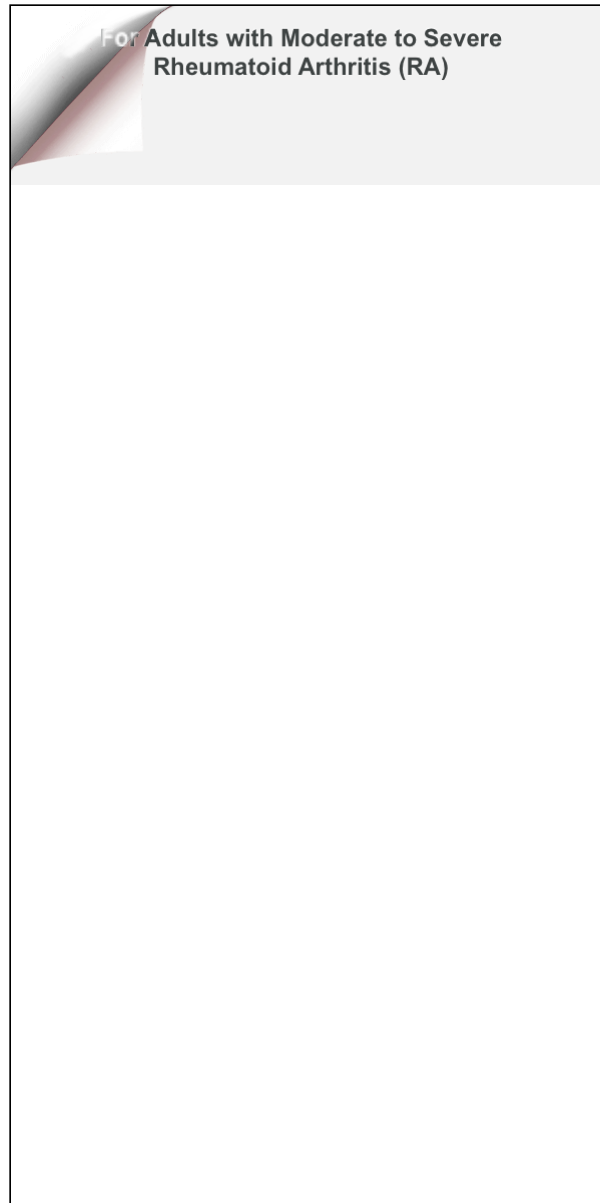


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