



Bartzella Itoh Peony

A vigorous plant with an abundance of semi-double to double lemon yellow blooms and small red flares that just glow in the afternoon sun. The large, well-formed blossoms carried high above the lush green foliage also make good cut flowers. With a lemony fragrance, this is a perennial favorite. Full Sun. 36" x 40" Zone 3



Cora Louise Itoh Peony

Large, white semi-double blooms with deep lavender to purple flares are reminiscent of *Paeonia rockii*. Strong stems hold the bloom above the dark green foliage. Along with a pleasant fragrance, this is an appealing flower for the garden or the vase. Full sun. 30" x 42" Zone 3



Going Bananas Itoh Peony

These are huge, light yellow, single flowers with some red flaring. This is an excellent garden plant with a more compact growth habit. Lightly fragrant. Full sun. 24" x 24" Zone 3



Julia Rose Itoh Peony

Single to semi-double blooms which open cherry red on to orange and later yellow as the flowers mature. The result is an attractive mix of variously colored blooms on one plant. Very vigorous and floriferous. Full Sun. 30" x 36" Zone 3



Magical Mystery Tour Itoh Peony

Gorgeous, semi-double to double flowers are a cream & pink blend that is very pink when they first open, but fades to a beautiful creamy white with a lavender pink picotee after several days in the bright sun. Full sun. 36" x 36" Zone 3



Sequestered Sunshine Itoh Peony

Single to semi-double sulphur yellow flowers with red tipped carpels and red flares are held well above the dark green foliage. Vigorous and floriferous, the long stems also make good cut flowers. Full sun. 36-42" Zone 3



Singing in the Rain Itoh Peony

Semi-double flowers are yellow but heavily flushed and suffused with pink when they first open. From a distance newly opened flowers appear light orange and they truly sing in the rain. Multicolored blooms on a floriferous plant with many side buds, this is one of our favorites. Full sun. 36" x 36" Zone 3



Yankee Doodle Dandy Itoh Peony

Semi-double to double blooms are a deep pink with cream undertones that fade slightly as the flowers mature. The attractive center of the flower contains a tight circle of stamens. This is a vigorous grower. Full sun. 36" x 36" Zone 3

Itoh Peonies

Itoh or intersectional peonies are derived from crosses between herbaceous and tree peonies. They have the large gorgeous flowers of a tree peony on an easy care herbaceous plant. They thrive in the same conditions as herbaceous peonies which are sunny well drained sites.

When originally introduced 10 years ago Itoh peonies were selling for \$1000 a piece! Now that they are becoming more available the price has come down considerably but they are still quite extraordinary plants. Our plants are propagated by tissue culture and will begin blooming in their 3rd or 4th year. These are 3rd year plants with 5 to 10 eyes so they may have light blooming this year.

Location: Plant in full sun to light shade. 8 hours of direct light is needed for best performance.

Soil: Average soil with good drainage. Poor draining soil, especially in winter, can lead to root rot.

Planting: Peonies should be planted at the same depth as they were in the pots. Do not plant any deeper! It is helpful to dig a hole twice as wide as needed and to add peat moss or compost to enrich the soil. Mulch may be added to the surface to help conserve moisture. Mulch should be no more than 1-2" deep. Plants are vigorous. Space at least 3' apart.

Irrigation and Fertilization: Water well at the time of planting. Peonies are slow growing so care should be taken not to over water or fertilize. Any complete garden fertilizer not too rich in nitrogen may be used. Peonies need very little care once established.

Dormancy and Winter Protection: Stems should be cut back in the fall to just above ground level. Destroy foliage to avoid any disease carryover. Most buds of Itoh varieties are found on the crown just under the soil as for herbaceous peonies; however some buds may be found on the lower parts of the stems. These are not essential for growth and may be cut or left on the plant. Although Itoh peonies are very winter hardy, mulching is recommended for young plants and in areas of insufficient snowfall. Mulch should be removed in the spring to allow the new shoots to emerge.

Blooming: Itoh peonies will bloom in their third or fourth year from tissue culture. First year blooms are often not typical of the variety; e.g. semi-doubles may be singles the first year, or doubles may be semi-double. Second year blooms should be near normal, and the number of blooms will have doubled or more. Itoh peonies have strong stems and plants do not need to be staked.

Diseases and Pests: Peonies are tough, strong-growing plants that exhibit excellent disease resistance. The most serious peony disease is Botrytis or grey mould, which most often occurs during cold, wet springs. All affected stems should be immediately cut and destroyed and pruning shears disinfected after use. Good air circulation around plants, watering early in the day, and not watering the leaves all help to avoid disease problems.