

Salpiglossis

Also called velvet flower or painted-tongue

(Salpiglossis)

Two- to 3-inch, velvety, petunia-like flowers on plants 2 to 3 feet tall. Purple, pink, yellow, orange, red. All are intricately veined with contrasting colors. Varieties: Emperor, Bolero, Splash.

Soil and Light

Full sun. Rich, well-drained soil kept moist for young plants and dry for older ones.

Planting

Sow seeds thinly outdoors after frost danger. Plants do not transplant well. Most need protection from the wind.

Comments

Use plants as back-of-border specimens. Pinch tops of young plants to encourage branching. Cut flowers for fresh arrangements.