

Weigela

(Weigela florida)

The weigela has been delighting gardeners for years. It's known for its display of color from late spring to early summer. Blooms are funnel-shape, in shades of red, white, or pink. Some open in a light color and darken as they mature; others are two-toned or bicolored in very bright tones. Branches are arching, and covered with green or variegated foliage. Plants grow to 6 to 10 feet, although several dwarf varieties are also available.

Soil: Average

Light: Full sun or part shade

Zone: 6

Comments

Weigela is essentially a pest-free plant, but it isn't particularly attractive when not in bloom. It needs to be pruned carefully and frequently, because a lot of winter damage can occur. Recommended varieties include Bristol Ruby, Bristol Snowflake, Variegata, and Newport Red. *W. maximowiczii* has greenish yellow blooms.