



## Tom Thumb Cotoneaster

*Cotoneaster apiculatus* "Tom Thumb"

Height: 12 inches

Spread: 3 feet

Sunlight: ○ ●

Hardiness Zone: 4

### Description:

A very popular low growing groundcover, with a mounded spreading habit of growth; dense, tightly held branches; light pink flowers in spring along the branches, followed by striking red fruit in fall, one of the overall best groundcovers

### Ornamental Features:

Tom Thumb Cotoneaster has dark green foliage throughout the season. The tiny glossy round leaves turn an outstanding brick red in the fall. It features tiny pink flowers along the branches in late spring. It features an abundance of magnificent red berries from late summer to late fall.

### Landscape Attributes:

Tom Thumb Cotoneaster is a multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with a ground-hugging habit of growth. It lends an extremely fine and delicate texture to the landscape composition which should be used to full effect.

This shrub will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and should not require much pruning, except when necessary, such as to remove dieback. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Tom Thumb Cotoneaster is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover

### Plant Characteristics:

Tom Thumb Cotoneaster will grow to be about 12 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 30 years.



*Cotoneaster apiculatus* "Tom Thumb" flowers  
Photo courtesy of Northscaping.com

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This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist growing conditions, but will not tolerate any standing water. It is not particular as to soil type or pH, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments.

This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.

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