




OPUNTIA BASILARIS


Beavertail Prickly Pear

 Low to moderate water

 Full sun to part shade

 Deer resistant

 Rabbit resistant

 Native to Mojave & Sonoran Desert

Why we love it...

The prickly pear family used to be a staple of the Native American diet and lifestyle. It was used as a food source, for medicine, for building, and much more. beavertail prickly pear is no exception to the usefulness of the rest of the family, but also makes an eye-catching accent in a cactus garden or landscape.

It is a low-growing cactus, not exceeding more than a foot in height, but spreading in clumps up to six feet. Bright pink to magenta blossoms cover this beauty from early spring through fall. Fruit follows flowering, which many birds and wildlife are fond of. Plant beavertail prickly pear with other colorful desert perennials like penstemon, angelita daisy, or globe mallow for color that will make a statement.



Lydia says: Beavertail Prickly Pear may appear thornless, but is actually covered in tiny spines called glochids. Be careful when handling this plant and wary of planting in an area with foot traffic.

Cactus: *Opuntia basilaris*

Size (H x W): 1-2 feet x 4-6 feet

Blooms: Pink in late winter, spring, early summer

Exposure: Full sun to part shade

Hardiness Zone: -10° F, USDA Zone 5

Water: Low to moderate

Pruning: In early spring to control size, if necessary

Growth Rate: Slow to moderate



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