




HYPTIS EMORYI


Desert Lavender

 Low to moderate water

 Full sun to part shade

 Attracts butterflies

 Attracts hummingbirds

 Native to N. Mexico, SW U.S.

Why we love it...

If you've ever smelled the unmistakable perfume of lavender while hiking through Sabino Canyon, this desert native was probably to blame! Desert Lavender's silvery foliage releases the namesake scent when something brushes against it, and when rainfall wets the leaves.

This semi-evergreen shrub's brilliant, silver sheen comes from the soft, wooly, water-conserving fuzz that covers the stems and leaves. Tiny purple flowers are crowded onto short spikes near the ends of Desert Lavender's branches, appearing heaviest in spring and then periodically throughout the summer. Try placing these shrubs in well-drained soil near walkways or in high traffic areas, where brushing against them will release the delightful lavender scent more frequently.



Lydia says: Cut back on watering Desert Lavender in fall to prepare it for colder weather, and avoid pruning this time of year. These plants can freeze to the ground in winter, but tend to come back even stronger in the spring!

Semi-evergreen Shrub: *Hyptis emoryi*

Size (H x W): 6-10 feet x 6-8 feet

Blooms: Purple flowers, late spring to fall

Exposure: Full sun to part shade

Hardiness Zone: 15° F, USDA Zone 8

Water: Low to moderate

Pruning: Winter to early spring

Growth Rate: Moderate to fast



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