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# Alpine Heath 'December Red'

*Erica carnea* 'December Red' Also known as: **Winter Heath 'December Red'**

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This description is for species **Alpine Heath (Erica carnea)**:

Erica carnea is an evergreen, spreading shrub that is well up to coping with the fickle UK weather. There's no worry about frosts and snow with this little lady, hence her common name of Alpine Heath. She sports needle like leaves, and from late winter through to the spring becomes covered in pink, red and, on occasion, white blooms. This makes it a great choice for adding early season colour to the garden. Add to this that she's easy to grow and requires little maintenance, and you can see she makes a fabulous choice for anyone looking for an addition to a low-maintenance garden.



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Plant	Environment	Usage
<b>Known dangers?</b> no	<b>Acidity</b> Acidic Neutral	<b>Standard category</b> Trees & shrubs Shrubs
<b>Height [m]</b> 0.1 - 0.15	<b>Hardiness zone</b> Z5-7	<b>Grown for</b> Long season of interest
<b>Spread [m]</b> 0.45	<b>Heat zone</b> H7-5	<b>Creative category</b> Kid Approved For Beginners For every season Tough survivors
<b>Dominant flower colour</b> Pink	<b>Winter temperatures [°C]</b> -29 - -12	<b>Garden type</b> Cottage garden Rock garden Containers

Plant	Environment	Usage
<b>Flower Fragrance</b> No, neutral please	<b>Heat days</b> 30 - 90	<b>Garden spaces</b> Banks and slopes Ground cover Borders
<b>Flowering seasons</b> Mid winter Late winter Early spring Mid spring Late spring Early winter	<b>Moisture</b> well-drained well-drained but frequently watered	<b>Gardening expertise</b> beginner
<b>Foliage in spring</b> Green	<b>Soil type</b> sandy Clay loams	<b>Time to reach full size</b> 2 to 5 years
<b>Foliage in summer</b> Green	<b>Sun requirements</b> Full sun	
<b>Foliage in Autumn</b> Green	<b>Exposure</b> Exposed Sheltered	
<b>Foliage in winter</b> Green		
<b>Propagation methods</b> semi-ripe cuttings layering		
<b>Growth habit</b> Mat-forming Spreading		