

SWITCHGRASS COMPARISON CHART

Panicum virgatum and its cultivars listed below are ornamental, North American native grasses. They're all good-looking, drought-tolerant, and low-maintenance. Which Switchgrass is right for you? Use this comparison chart to help decide. It's ordered by height and lists key features.

<i>Panicum virgatum</i> & cultivars	Height w/bloom	Habit	Foliage color	Distinctive features
Cape Breeze	2.5'	Upright arching	Green	Sturdy, short, and compact; long-lasting green foliage; salt tolerant
<i>Panicum virgatum</i>	3.5'	Upright	Green	Clouds of airy seed heads
Purple Tears	4'	Upright	Green	Soft gray, flowering spikes with purple seed heads; neat habit
Rotstrahlbusch	4'	Upright	Green, then red	Burgundy tipped leaves and seed heads in mid-late summer
Ruby Ribbons®	4'	Upright	Blue green; wine red midsummer	Deep red fall color; lighter, more open look
Shenandoah	4'	Upright	Green, then red	Starts green and colors up early summer; dazzling red in fall
Summer Sunrise	4.5'	Upright	Green	Narrow, upright habit; heavy bloom set with soft pink seed heads
Heavy Metal	5'	Upright	Metallic blue	Dramatic color and shape; midsummer blooms
Northwind	5.5'	Tight upright	Blue green	Stunning vertical accent; dependably upright
Dallas Blues	6'	Upright vase	Bright blue	Wide blue leaves; pink-colored seed heads
Cloud Nine	8'	Loose vase	Blue gray	Tall; deep gold color in fall; good sub for large, introduced grasses
Thundercloud	8'	Upright vase	Blue green	Resists flopping under wind and rain; impressive panicles