

Cardinal Climber

Ipomoea sloteri

At a Glance

- Height: 6 to 12 feet tall (climbing vine)
- Bloom Colors: Brilliant red trumpet-shaped flowers
- Bloom Time: Midsummer to frost
- Days to Maturity: 80-90 days
- Best For: Trellises, fences, pollinator and hummingbird gardens

Growing Conditions Quick Reference

- Soil Temperature: 65-75F for best germination
- Soil Type: Well-drained, moderately fertile soil
- Light Requirements: Full sun
- Planting Depth: 1/4 inch deep
- Seeding Rate: 2-3 seeds per hole, thin to strongest seedling
- Plant Spacing: 12 inches apart
- Moisture Needs: Moderate; do not overwater
- Average Germination Time: 7-14 days (nick or soak seeds to improve germination)

How to Grow

- When to Plant: Direct sow after last frost when soil is warm.
- Location: Full sun with trellis or fence for support.
- Spacing: Thin seedlings to 12 inches apart.
- Watering: Moderate; allow soil to dry slightly between waterings.
- Fertilizer: Minimal; too much fertilizer results in lush leaves with fewer flowers.

Tips for Success

- Nick or soak seeds overnight to improve germination.
- Provide a sturdy trellis or support.
- Encourages hummingbirds and butterflies.
- Deadhead to extend blooming season.

Cardinal Climber

Ipomoea sloteri

Fun Fact

Cardinal Climber is a hybrid between cypress vine and morning glory, combining feathery foliage with vibrant red blooms.

Companion Planting

Pairs well with morning glories for a mix of colors. Avoid planting near delicate crops as it may overshadow them.

Harvesting and Use

Primarily ornamental; collect seeds in fall when pods are dry for next year's planting.

Quick Planting Checklist

- Soak or nick seeds before planting
- Sow after last frost
- Provide trellis or support
- Thin seedlings to 12 inches apart
- Attracts hummingbirds and butterflies