

Lamorinda

OUR HOMES

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Tips on selling your staff

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Digging Deep with Goddess Gardener, Cynthia Brian

A passion for pink with Barbie blooms



Pink geraniums are simple, yet classic, just like Barbie.

Photos Cynthia Brian

By Cynthia Brian

"My parents told me I'd point to a bed of flowers and say 'Pink. Pretty' before I could say any other words!" ~ Joni Mitchell

Pink, and all the shades and hues associated with this color, has always been a favorite of mine, not only in my wardrobe but in my home and garden designs. Who else has a passion for pink?

As a young girl, I had only one beloved Barbie. I sold her to my youngest sister for 5 cents when I thought I was too "grown-up" to play with dolls. Yet, like many females since the first Barbie debuted in 1959, I have always been fascinated by this glamorous, independent, and

highly talented career woman. Several years ago, I was flown to a studio in Los Angeles to play the role of Barbie in a short film project. How fun it was morphing into the various iterations of this iconic figure! One of the memorable professions I created for that shoot was "Barbie, Landscape Architect." Channeling the public's summer obsession with everything Barbie, I decided to focus on the flowers that I am certain Barbie would feature in her paradise.

Barbie Blooms:

For indoor décor, there is no doubt that Barbie would surround herself with orchids, mostly in shades of pink and mauve. Orchids evoke the exotic while adding a touch of sophistication to a home.

Barbie would have an affinity for roses and her garden would be filled with reblooming, highly fragrant, disease-resistant roses. Roses are regal and are available in numerous colors, but she would plant a variety of blush and deep pink specimens, probably favoring old roses.

The romantic charm of peonies with their ruffled showy flowers on small shrubs with shiny green foliage would be part of Barbie's landscape. Peonies are beloved for their variety of shapes and their gorgeous rich colors, ranging from the palest pink to the deepest cerise. Barbie and her friends could enjoy the flowers indoors in long-lasting cut arrangements.

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For a tropical feel, Barbie grows pink hibiscus.