

Miniatures

This class of now hundreds upon hundreds of varieties, most of very recent breeding, interests me very little, largely because of its emphasis on flower form, and its traditional neglect of cluster-flowering. Miniaturism can be very charming and certainly has its place in a world of increasingly smaller gardens. Minis often negate their best attributes for the small garden by being nearly impossible to prune, so tightly do they grow, and so small are their branches; one is usually forced to chop at them with shears and put up with the dead wood that ensues. We recommend to those who love small roses to consider the old dwarf Polyanthas.

Habit

We offer here three habit-types which encompass the varieties we grow.

1. (E.g., CINDERELLA) The model of miniaturism is the Micro-Mini, a very compact, dwarf plant which rarely exceeds 18 inches.
2. (E.g., ROULETTE) The origins of the modern Minis lie in an older group of miniature Chinas, very twiggy plants which can build up to 3' or so.
3. (E.g., LITTLE BUCKAROO) A more robust form of Mini, which can easily build up with strong basal canes to 4' or more, but also has congested, twiggy secondary stems.



ANNA FORD

Min rrr/ff/3 Harkness, 1980 [SJHRG]
One of Harkness' Patio roses, very popular in Britain and rarely seen this side of the globe. Glowing orange-red blooms with yellow centers, semi-double, with some fragrance.

ANYTIME

Min rrr/-/3 McGredy, 1973 [MPK]
Semi-double flowers of vibrant salmon-orange with a mauve eye, the whole flower developing an overlay of lavender tones as it ages. Really a remarkable color, and a rose that should be studied by breeders. A challenge to place with other colors.

BABY BETSY MCCALL

Min rrr/ff/1 Morey, 1960 [MPK?]
Light pink flowers with many petals in a cup, reminiscent of its parent, The SWEETHEART ROSE; the plant is very compact with tiny, slender stems and it produces a continuous outpouring of new blossoms.

BABY DARLING*

Min rrr/-/1 Moore, 1964 [SJHRG]
An absolutely delightful rose, BABY DARLING's flowers are pretty little HT styled blooms of orange-apricot softening to peach pink with age.

BABY DONNIE

Min rrr/-/2 unknown, 197? [MPK]
Deeply saturated scarlet-crimson single blooms in clusters, showing Polyantha influence. Long one of my favorite dwarf roses; flowers are very long lasting and in the garden its diminutive size is overcome by the intensity of color.

BABY MASQUERADE*

[BABY CARNIVAL]
Min rrrr/-/1 Tantau, 1956 [Hortico]
Raised as a miniature version of that sensational Floribunda of the 1950s, Masquerade, this charming Micro-Miniature starts gold to apricot with little quilled petals in a prickly wheel. They change to pink then to rich carmine red. Zowie!

BABY OPHELIA*

Min rrr/ff/1 Moore, 1961 [SJHRG]
Creamy blush-pink flowers of perfect miniature Hybrid Tea form; an echo of the great large flowered rose, OPHELIA. This is one of Ralph Moore's masterpieces.

BAMBINO*

Min rrr/-/2 Dot, P., 1953 [SJHRG]
A soft rose pink sport of PERLA DE ALCAÑANDA from Pedro Dot; this is a splendid little garden plant like its parent.

BLUE MIST (see Polyanthas)

CAFÉ OLÉ*

Min rrr/ff/2 Moore, 1990 [Sequoia]
Is this LAVENDER PINOCCHIO in miniature? Sport of WINTER MAGIC™ which intensifies the lavender and tan tones in that rose, this is quite a beautiful thing for those who love lavenders, tans and lavender-tans.

CALGOLD*

Min rrr/f/2 Moore, 1977 [Sequoia]
Diminutive HT blooms of rich, saturated yellow open to perfect little bowls of petals an inch or so across, still optimistically yellow.

CANDLEFLAME*

Min rrr/f/2 Moore, 1956 [Sequoia]
Imagine the old Hybrid Tea MRS. OAKLEY FISHER in miniature, and you have CANDLEFLAME; crisp, single flowers of soft buff to apricot yellow with copper colored stamens.

CENTENNIAL MISS*

Min rrr/-/1 Moore, 1952 [SJHRG]
Very double wine-red flowers with quilled petals, make little starbursts of color on the very dwarf plant.

CHELSEA

Min rrr/-/2 Moore, 1986 [Moore]
An early Ralph Moore introduction of a Miniature with creasing in the sepals; small double, soft pink flowers are backed by sepals that feather in a lacy manner.

CIDER CUP*

Min rrrr/f/3 Dickson, 1987 [Pickering]
This modern miniature might be considered an early Mini-Flora, that interesting in-between class recognized in Britain as part Floribunda, part Miniature. Flowers are larger than the classic Mini's, and the foliage likewise is bigger. Shapely cups of orange turn to gold and brown.

CINDERELLA

Min rrr/f/1 deVink, 1953 [MPK]
CINDERELLA is a classic Mini that should be grown more today; very tiny scrolled fat buds with rolled back petals, blush pink to white with a hint of fragrance; always in bloom on a tiny bun-shaped plant to about a foot in height. I recommend this for window gardeners, as it will bloom prolifically in midwinter.

COLIBRI*

Min rrrr/-/2 Meiland, 1958 [Sequoia]
Very double blooms of clear yellow are formed like tiny HTs with perfect form and rolled back petal edges, gradually opening into broad, domed flowers and retaining their rich clear color.

CORALIN*

Min rrrr/f/2 Dot, 1955 [SJHRG]
A plant of low compact growth produces many globular flowers of light orange-red. A classic Mini from the 1950s, and a treasure from Pedro Dot.

COTTAGE GARDEN*

Min rrrr/f/3 Harkness, 1992 [Pickering]
A mini-flora from Harkness, lightly scented with handsome blooms of translucent orange-salmon; the flowers open wide and cupped with excellent form.

DEBBIE*

Min rrrr/-/1 Moore, 1956 [Sequoia]
Small double blooms of clear yellow turning pink at the edges; this period treasure of the 1950s lives on!

DIAN*

Min rrr/f/2 Moore, 1957 [Sequoia]
Quite double little flowers of rose-cerise with a pale eye; the petals are perfectly formed in a pinwheel effect with pointed tips.

DOUBLE TREAT

Min rrr/-/2 Moore, 1986 [Moore]
Lightly mossed buds, full globular flowers in miniature of rich yellow striped in vermilion, fading to cream and orange pink, the colors lasting well in cool weather.

DRESDEN DOLL

Min rrr/ff/3 Moore, 1975 [Moore]
One of Ralph Moore's most beautiful Miniature Moss roses; it bears soft pink cupped flowers of many petals with a soft silky texture (unlike the stiffness so often encountered in other Minis), and is graced with a lovely fragrance, both in the flower and on the soft green mossy sepals.

EASTER MORNING*

Min rrr/f/2 Moore, 1960 [Sequoia]
One of many roses that Ralph Moore has derived from GOLDEN GLOW, the Brownell climber of 1937, EASTER MORNING has a very double, clean white flower of globular Hybrid Tea form.

ELEANOR*

Min rrr/-/1 Moore, 1960 [Sequoia]
Small, cupped, double flowers of clear pink to peach often come ruddy pink in cool weather. A very tiny plant.

FAIRY MAGIC

Min rrr/-/3 Moore, 1979 [Moore]
Another lovely Ralph Moore Mini-Moss with deep rose-pink flowers full of petals opening semi-double, from wonderfully mossy buds.

FAIRY MOSS

Min rrr/-/2 Moore, 1969 [MPK]
An early Mini Moss rose which has the old rose WILLIAM LOBB as a grandparent; it retains some of the charm of this

heirloom in its plentiful, pungent moss and antique rose coloring.

(Note: We are currently trying to replace our lost plant of this, and may be unable to offer it for a few years.)

FIESTA GOLD

Min rrr/f/2 Moore, 1970 [MPK]
Rich amber-golden blooms with many petals and an old-fashioned fullness to the open flowers. Some scent.

FIESTA RUBY*

Min rrrr/f/2 Moore, 1977 [SJHRG]
Ovoid buds of exhibition form open to ruby red flowers of about 40 petals. Compact bushy growth.

FOUMAGIC (AKA WINTER MAGIC™)*

Min rrr/ff/3 Jacobs, 1986 [Freid]
Soft lilac flowers are formed like miniature Hybrid Tea roses; in warm weather they quickly turn to white but in cool seasons the flowers wax to near white then gradually tint pale lavender-gray as they age.

FROSTY*

Min rrr/fff/1 Moore, 1953 [Sequoia]
Derived from *Rosa wichurana* seedlings, and not from China miniatures, this tiny rose is packed with a fruity sweet scent, and though others might consider it a Polyantha type, Ralph Moore sticks with its classification as a Miniature.

GENTLE TOUCH

Min rrr/-/3 Dickson, 1986 [SJHRG]
Another of what are now being called Patio roses, GENTLE TOUCH is a semi-double bloom of about 2 inches across, very pretty in the bud, but still looking very like a Mini when open, soft warm pink.

GOLD COIN*

Min rrr/f/1 Moore, 1967 [Sequoia]
Double, light yellow blooms are rich yellow paling to a pastel tone, excellent for spilling from a pot.

GREEN DIAMOND*

Min rrr/-1 Moore, 1975 [Sequoia]
Dainty little flowers with pointed form and pointed petals last a very long time in their off-white perfection. Green from opening to falling away, at times just slightly tinted with mauve gray inside.

GREEN ICE

Min rrr/ff/2 Moore; Sequoia Nsy., 1971 [MPK?]
If you've ever thought it might be nice to have a MME. HARDY or Sombreuil in miniature, this is your rose. Small, very double, flat, old-fashioned flowers in intense abundance, open pure, icy white and last for days and days, gradually taking on a green tint, quite striking in mild climates. A bushy and pretty plant.

HAND IN HAND*

Min rrr/-/3 Harkness, 1994 [Pickering]
Large flowers of coral-orange with big petals; this is another Mini-Flora of excellent form and compact habit.

HEIDI MOSS

Min rrr/ff/3 Christensen, 1978 [Armstrong]
A great favorite of ours, we have grown it since it was introduced. Mid-pink flowers, double and prettily formed, nicely mossed on the sepals, flowers held stiffly upright in sprays on a bushy, tall plant, an early rose of the Patio type.

HI

Min rrrr/-/1 unknown, unknown [unknown]
I have lost track of who gave us this charming little rose, and can find no information whatever about it, but it is a delight. A Micro-Mini that stays under 12 inches with tiny leaves and flowers smaller than a dime, five petals, pale rosy pink with soft yellow stamens.

HONEST ABE MOSS

Min rrr/f/2 Christensen, 1978 [Armstrong]
Small, double, globular blooms of deep crimson nestled in sepals of mossy charm, this is a lovely rose, and calls to mind the full-sized glory, MR. LINCOLN.

HULA GIRL

Min rrr/ff/3 Williams, 1975 [unknown]
Buds of this very double little rose are deep orange and open to soft salmon-pink with golden petal bases, petals pointed and very full like an old Hybrid Tea. Fragrant.

JANICE

Min rrr/-/2 Moore, 1971 [MPK]
One of the most loved of Minis, with scrolled buds of pure pink.

JET TRAIL*

Min rrr/-/2 Moore, 1964 [Sequoia]
Lovely bowls of white petals open from rounded buds, turn greenish after several days in cool weather.

JUNE TIME*

Min rrr/-/1 Moore, 1963 [Sequoia]
Rose-blush pink with more than 70 petals packed in a bloom less than an inch across; it's rather like a mini-Bourbon rose in appearance.

KARA*

Min rrr/-/2 Moore, 1974 [Sequoia]
Single flowers of deep purple are handsomely set with a gem of golden stamens.

KATHY

Min rrr/f/2 Moore, 1970 [unknown]
Lightly fragrant blooms of rose-red, small and charming in the bud. Bushy and compact.

“LEGACY OF FRANK DORROH”

Min rrrr/-/3 unknown, found [Wilkinson]
An old miniature, quite probably another of the early Lawrencianas with very small, double blooms of cherry red blending to pink, white in the center. Habit similar to that of ROULETII.

LEMON DELIGHT*

Min rrr/-/2 Moore, 1978 [SJHRG]
Flowers lemon-scented and sepals mossed; it is indeed a delight! Pale yolk yellow to buff, with pointed petals.

LITTLE BUCKAROO

Min rrr/f/3 Moore, 1956 [Robinson, found]
One of the archetypes of the Miniature rose, LITTLE BUCKAROO has much of the character of ROULETII, but with more vigorous basal canes; double carmine-red flowers in abundance.

LITTLE JUAN*

Min rrr/f/1 Williams, E., 1966 [SJHRG]
A very sweet Micro-Mini with cupped flowers of rose red to crimson, very lightly scented.

LITTLE TIGER*

Min rrr/-/2 Moore, 1989 [Sequoia]
Very full little blooms are almost overly packed with petals, brilliantly striped with red, crimson, cream and white.

“MABELTON ROULETII”
“ROULETII”

Min rrrr/-/2 unknown, unknown [Matson/Mabelton]
Probably one of the early Mini-Chinas or Lawrencianas; double rose pink flowers an inch or so across, deeping to China pink with age. It is likely to be one of the parents of the modern Minis. This is different from the ROULETII grown by Ralph Moore, which we believe most likely correct. This form is an exact miniature of OLD BLUSH in every detail. We have renamed this for the old house where it was first collected in Santa Rosa, California.

MEMORY LANE*

Min rrr/f/2 Moore, 1973 [Sequoia]
Rather tiny flowers with so many petals it seems implausible; would a pinhead find enough room to rest on one? Very old fashioned with a light sweet scent.

MON PETIT*

Min rrr/-/1 Dot, P., 1947 [SJHRG]
A rose red seedling of POMPON DE PARIS that is completely captivating. Pedro Dot at his peak of powers!

MONA RUTH*

Min rrr/f/1 Moore, 1959 [Sequoia]
A rose pink treasure from the 1950s, the heyday of Miniature rose development. Flowers double and very shapely.

MOOD MUSIC*

Min rrr/f/2 Moore, 1977 [Sequoia]
Light melon-orange blooms of precise double form are strikingly composed with mossy/bristly sepals and flower stems.

MR. BLUEBIRD

Min rrrr/f/2 Moore, 1960 [MPK]
Cupped lavender-blue flowers, semi-double on a bushy plant in the mould of the old 19th century Miniature Chinas. One of the nicest Minis to grow, especially for its rare coloring.

MOROSE (AKA ROSE GILARDI™)*

Min rrrr/f/2 Moore, 1986 [B & B]
A miniature Moss version of FERDINAND PICHARD, this rose has, among its grandparents, DORTMUND and FERDINAND PICHARD. The mossy buds come from FAIRY MOSS.

“NEW ORLEANS MINI” (see PERLA DE ALCAÑADA)

OAKINGTON RUBY

Min rrrr/-/1 Bloom, 1933 [Huntington]
A very early Mini of micro dimensions, able to build to 18 inches or so; flowers ruby red, double, very tiny. This is very similar to the few Lawrenciana roses which survive, and seems appropriate in a planting of Tea and China roses.

PACESETTER*

Min rrr/ff/3 Schwartz, E. W., 1979 [SJHRG]
White flowers verging on cream are very full, somewhat globular, and large for a mini. This is part Floribunda, and has the early marks of a Mini-Flora.

PALLAS*

Min rrr/f/3 Harkness, 1989 [Hortico]
A mini with larger leaves and flowers, what the British refer to as Mini-Floras, the blooms very double, soft apricot-buff and with a light fragrance. A superb container rose.

PANDORA*

Min rrrr/f/3 Harkness, 1989 [Pickering]
Very double flowers with pointed petals have a charming antique flair to them, the petals white blending to apricot-cream at the heart. This delightful small shrub has been popular in Britain but overlooked in America.

PARA TI

[POUR TOI, WENDY]
Min rrrr/-/1 Dot, 1946 [SJHRG]
An important step in the breeding of Miniature roses, from Pedro Dot of Spain, PARA TI is still a good garden plant. Flowers are semi-double, cream tinted yellow in the center and very freely produced.

PATTY LOU*

Min rrr/f/1 Moore, 1953 [Sequoia]
Quite double flowers of rose pink with pale reverses to the petals; this is a Micro-Miniature, or teacup rose. It was raised from the very old cultivar OAKINGTON RUBY.

PERLA DE ALCAÑADA

Min rrr/-/1 Dot, 1944 [MPK?]
Another very old Mini with carmine-red, semi-double flowers no bigger than an old English half-penny. Very compact.

PERLA ROSA

Min rrrr/f/1 Dot, 1946 [Myers]
Tiny blush-pink flowers with scrolled little buds and semi-double blooms, light scent and exceptional remontancy. Thanks to Don Myers for passing on this historic Pedro Dot introduction.

PLUM BRANDY

Min rrr/f/1 unknown, 197? [MPK?]
We have lost track of the origin of this lovely rose, and are unsure whether it was ever registered. Very tiny plum-purple flowers with a light fragrance on a small bush.

POMPON DE PARIS

Min rrr/f/1 unknown, 1839 [Sequoia]
Dusky rose-pink and very double flowers on a diminutive plant. This is one of the original 19th-century Miniature Chinas, or Lawrencianas. It is very similar to ROULETII, if not identical. According to Charles Fitch in *The Complete Book of Miniature Roses*, POMPON DE PARIS is distinguished by its unfoliaceous sepals and larger, more open flowers.

POPCORN

Min rrr/ff/1 Morey, 1973 [MPK?]
A charming and floriferous rose. Tiny, many-petaled white flowers flushed with soft amber-yellow fading to pure white, much like its namesake; blossoms open wide to show a miniscule boss of stamens. Spicy scent.

PUMILA

Min rrr/-/1 unknown, unknown [Myers]
In the style of ROULETII, but even more dwarfish; flowers bright pink deepening to rose-red. Thanks to Don Myers for passing this lovely rose on to us.

RED IMP

Min rrr/-/1 deVink, 1951 [MPK?]
Dime-sized flowers of many petals, deep crimson on a very small plant, RED IMP is a micro-mini as well, and though the flowers may not open well in cool seasons this is a really nice old Miniature to grow in a warm spot in a container.

ROSADA*

Min rrr/-/1 Dot, P., 1950 [SJHRG]
Soft orange-coral to peach pink blooms on a very small, dense plant; this is a classic, and one of Pedro Dot's most memorable.

ROULETII

[ROULETII #2]

Min rrrr/f/2 Roulet reintro?, c. 1818 [Sequoia]
We received this from Ralph Moore's nursery, and we now believe this to be the correct ROULETII. It appears to be

identical to what we have grown for some years as Climbing ROULETII, except in habit. Flowers are small and loosely double with a very poised, high-centered form, a soft shade of pink that is uniform; plants are very compact.

"RUTH GRAY'S MINI"*

Min rrr/-/1 unknown, unknown [SJHRG]
Tiny blooms of delicate sculpting, double and palest pink to slate gray; this rose complete charmed us among the founding roses that thrive at the San Jose Heritage Rose Garden.

SECRET RECIPE*

Min rrr/-/2 Moore, 1994 [Sequoia]
A very stripy rose with dark red stripes against a blush background; this is also a dwarf Moss rose!

SI BEMOL*

Min rrr/-/3 Lens, 1983 [SJHRG]
Like a more double, more diminutive version of REGENSBURG, this robust Mini is delightful with its hand-painted flowers of cerise pink and white.

SI

Min rrr/-/1 Dot, 1957 [Michael's Premier Roses]
Teeny, tiny flowers barely half an inch across are lightly double and reflexed, soft pink, and grow on a plant that is rarely more than 10 inches tall, a micro-mini. From Pedro Dot of Spain.

SIMPLEX

Min rrrr/f/2 Moore, 1961 [MPK]
Flowers apricot in the bud, opening pure white with apricot stamens. Single Miniatures are rare enough and few of them are white; this has the look of a dwarf wild rose. It has been more difficult to propagate than most Minis because it is very compact and branching with growth buds widely spaced.

SNOW MAGIC

Min rrrr/-/3 Moore, 1976 [Moore]
Semi-double cupped flowers with boat-shaped petals, touched with pink in the bud, borne on a bushy and spreading plant. Extremely remontant.

SNOWCAP*

Min rrr/-/3 Harkness, 1999 [Pickering]
Very double, quartered and button-eyed are very reminiscent of an old Polyantha rose, yet this is truly a Miniature. The color is antique white, very creamy at the heart and the blooms last for many days on the plant.

Miniatures continue on page 177.

"ST. THOMAS CHINA"

Min rrrr/-/2 unknown, found [Knopf]
 Found by Ruth Knopf in several locations on the Caribbean island of St. Thomas, many years ago, this early Lawrenciana is one of a rare handful of rediscovered old miniature Chinas which include ROULETII. Flowers blush to ivory, deep pink at the edges in warm weather. A treasure which may one day match up to an original cultivar, though this may prove a difficult task as there is so little written information on these roses.

STARS 'N' STRIPES

Min rrr/f/2 Moore, 1975 [MPK?]
 A lovely striped Mini, not terribly vivid, but very nice all the same: white to ivory petals are emblazoned with with rose-red to scarlet stripes.

SWEET VIVID—*Missing from our collection.*

TOM THUMB

Min rrrr/-/1 de Vink; C.-P., 1936 [Sequoia]
 A great heirloom Miniature with very small semi-double flowers of ruddy red with white eyes, abundant on small plants. Ideal for a tiny pot or rock crevice.

TOY BALLOON

Min rrr/f/2 Moore, 1979 [Miniature Plant Kingdom]
 This rose is so double it has an antique look to it, despite its diminutive size; 1-inch flowers of deep scarlet crimson with 40 to 50 petals which gradually open to a reflexed globe of petals, hence its name.

YELLOW DOLL

Min rrr/f/2 Moore, 1962 [Miniature Plant Kingdom]
 Shapely, soft lemon-yellow buds open into little crowns of pale yellow petals. The plant makes compact, dwarf growth, and is very reminiscent of the original 19th-century Miniature Chinas that were known as Lawrencianas.

