Town & Country gardens

Chameleon Plant

Houttuynia cordata



Chameleon Plant
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 12 inches

Spread: 3 feet

Spacing: 32 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: 4

Description:

Low growing with a spreading habit, this vigorous grower can be used as groundcover, or planted in containers and hanging baskets to control its spread; green heart shaped leaves with inconspicuous white blooms in the summer

Ornamental Features

Chameleon Plant's heart-shaped leaves remain green in color throughout the season on a plant with a spreading habit of growth.

Landscape Attributes

Chameleon Plant is a dense herbaceous perennial with a ground-hugging habit of growth. Its medium texture blends into the garden, but can always be balanced by a couple of finer or coarser plants for an effective composition.

This is a high maintenance plant that will require regular care and upkeep, and can be pruned at anytime. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Invasive

Chameleon Plant is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Groundcover

Planting & Growing

Chameleon Plant will grow to be about 12 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 32 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. As an herbaceous perennial, this plant will usually die back to the crown each winter, and will regrow from the base each spring. Be careful not to disturb the crown in late winter when it may not be readily seen!

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This plant performs well in both full sun and full shade. It is quite adaptable, prefering to grow in average to wet conditions, and will even tolerate some standing water. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This species is not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division.

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