

Coleus (Maroon Green) - Plant



Coleus is a former genus of flowering plants in the family Lamiaceae. In recent classifications, the genus is no longer recognized, and the formerly included species are instead placed in the genera *Plectranthus* and *Solenostemon*.

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Description

Description for Coleus (Maroon Green)

They have some of the most stunningly coloured foliage in combinations of green, yellow, pink, red, maroon, etc. Coleus also have a wide variety of leaf sizes and overall shapes. This means that no matter what area you are looking to put coleus, you can find one that will be perfect. These plants are great for adding colour in the garden (or home), especially in those dark, drab-looking corners.

Common name	Flower colours	Bloom time	Height	Difficulty
painted nettle, poor man's croton	-	Annual	1 to 8 feet.	Easy.

Planting and care

Coleus plants should be grown in the garden in bright, indirect light, or in partial shade. The lower growing dwarf varieties (6-12 inch) will create a colourful border, or you can use the taller (up to 36") types as a dramatic background planting.

Many Coleus plants will survive full sun exposure but the foliage colour is often enhanced when they are grown in the shade. Coleus are also quite striking when they are planted in a container and grown as a house plant. By removing the flower spikes as they develop, and keeping the plant pinched back, the Coleus can be kept growing as a perennial for several seasons.

Sunlight	Soil	Water	Temperature	Fertilizer
Dappled or partial shade.	Good quality soil mix.	Evenly moist soil but not soggy. Container plants also require more frequent watering than those grown	Average temperature is 90 degrees Fahrenheit.	A balanced, water-soluble fertilizer every two weeks for plants in containers; in the ground, once a month is

in the garden.

enough, with the fertilizer diluted to half-strength.

Caring for Coleus

- Where the growing season is long, pinch the tips of the stems regularly to encourage branching and compact growth.
- When growing coleus, keep in mind that these beauties can grow rapidly.
- Plant coleus close together as bedding plants or tuck them into baskets and containers for a fast growing and spectacular addition.
- Another factor in coleus care is overwintering, as these plants, which are considered tender annuals, are highly susceptible to cold temperatures.

Typical uses of Coleus

Special features: Good for Containers, Low Maintenance

Ornamental use: These plants are great for adding color to the garden (or home), especially in those dark, drab-looking corners. Their diversity of foliage color, leaf shape, and growth habit make Coleus a valuable container and bedding plant, especially in the shade where summer color is scarce.

References

<http://www.gardeningknowhow.com/ornamental/foilage/coleus/coleus-plant-care.htm>