Echter's Nursery & Garden Center

5150 Garrison St.
Arvada, CO, 80002
phone: 303-424-7979
ggm@echters.com
www.echters.com

Jester's Crown Fern

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Nephrolepis exaltata 'Jester's Crown'



Jester's Crown Fern in full
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 24 inches

Spread: 24 inches

Spacing: 18 inches

Sunlight: ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Description:

A wonderful bushy variety, producing elegant, finely-toothed, sword-shaped fronds; a great addition to patio containers, hanging baskets; can be planted in ground in warmer climates; prefers high humidity and evenly moist soil

Ornamental Features

Jester's Crown Fern's attractive glossy ferny pinnately compound leaves remain forest green in color throughout the year on a plant with an arching habit of growth.

Landscape Attributes

Jester's Crown Fern is a dense herbaceous annual with a shapely form and gracefully arching foliage. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and should not require much pruning, except when necessary, such as to remove dieback. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;



Jester's Crown Fern foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

- Suckering

Jester's Crown Fern is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- Container Planting
- Hanging Baskets

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Planting & Growing

Jester's Crown Fern will grow to be about 24 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 24 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 18 inches apart. Its foliage tends to remain dense right to the ground, not requiring facer plants in front. Although it's not a true annual, this fast-growing plant can be expected to behave as an annual in our climate if left outdoors over the winter, usually needing replacement the following year. As such, gardeners should take into consideration that it will perform differently than it would in its native habitat.

This plant does best in partial shade to shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. This plant should not require much in the way of fertilizing once established, although it may appreciate a shot of general-purpose fertilizer from time to time early in the growing season. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Jester's Crown Fern is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor containers and hanging baskets. It can be used either as 'filler' or as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, depending on the height and form of the other plants used in the container planting. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.