Firebird Hens And Chicks

Sempervivum 'Firebird'



Firebird Hens And Chicks
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Plant Height: 4 inches

Flower Height: 12 inches

Spread: 12 inches

Spacing: 10 inches

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 3a

Other Names: House Leek

Description:

Beautiful succulent with showy spiny foliage with bold red tips and green centers; a tough perennial for hot and dry locations, also makes an ideal selection for indoor container gardens in bright areas

Features & Attributes

Firebird Hens And Chicks is primarily valued in the home for its distinctive form, with the flower stalks towering over the foliage. It features unusual clusters of pink star-shaped flowers with dark red bracts rising above the foliage in mid summer. Its attractive succulent pointy leaves remain grayish green in color with distinctive red edges throughout the year. The brick red stems can be quite attractive and add to the plant's interest.

This is a dense herbaceous houseplant with tall flower stalks held atop a low mound of foliage. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other indoor plants with less refined foliage. This plant should not require much pruning, except when necessary to keep it looking its best.

Planting & Growing

When grown indoors, Firebird Hens And Chicks can be expected to grow to be only 4 inches tall at maturity extending to 12 inches tall with the flowers, with a spread of 12 inches. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 20 years. This houseplant requires direct sun for optimal performance, and should therefore be situated in a room that gets bright sunlight for a good part of the day; it is not a good choice for rooms lit only by artificial light. It prefers dry to average moisture levels with very well-drained soil, and may die if left in standing water for any length of time. This plant should be watered when the surface of the soil gets dry, and will need watering approximately once each week. Be aware that your particular watering schedule may vary depending on its location in the room, the pot size, plant size and other conditions; if in doubt, ask one of our experts in the store for advice. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in sandy soil. Contact the store for specific recommendations on pre-mixed potting soil for this plant.

There are many factors that will affect the ultimate height, spread and overall performance of a plant when grown indoors; among them, the size of the pot it's growing in, the amount of light it receives, watering frequency, the pruning regimen and repotting schedule. Use the information described here as a guideline only; individual performance can and will vary. Please contact the store to speak with one of our experts if you are interested in further details concerning recommendations on pot size, watering, pruning, repotting, etc.