Firefly Bat Face Cuphea

Cuphea x purpurea 'Firefly'

Height: 24 inches

Spread: 24 inches

Spacing: 18 inches

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 8b

Other Names: Cuphea llavea x procumbens

Description:

A round, bushy, evergreen tender subshrub producing unusual tubular flowers lipped with upward facing, bright red petals that look like bat ears and the purple tips resemble the face; a great container plant for bright indoor areas

Features & Attributes

Firefly Bat Face Cuphea has panicles of cherry red tubular flowers with purple throats at the ends of the branches from mid spring to mid fall, which emerge from distinctive deep purple flower buds, and which are interesting on close inspection. Its pointy leaves remain green in color throughout the year.

This is a multi-stemmed evergreen houseplant with an upright spreading habit of growth. This plant may benefit from an occasional pruning to look its best.



Firefly Bat Face Cuphea flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Firefly Bat Face Cuphea in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

When grown indoors, Firefly Bat Face Cuphea can be expected to grow to be about 24 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 24 inches. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. This houseplant will do well in a location that gets either direct or indirect sunlight, although it will usually require a more brightly-lit environment than what artificial indoor lighting alone can provide. It does best in average to evenly moist soil, but will not tolerate standing water. The surface of the soil shouldn't be allowed to dry out completely, and so you should expect to water this plant once and possibly even twice 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 rich 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.