Furry Feather Calathea

Goeppertia rufibarba

Height: 3 feet

Spread: 24 inches

Sunlight: ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: 10b

Other Names: Velvet Calathea, syn. Calathea rufibarba



Furry Feather Calathea in full
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Description:

An interesting houseplant featuring pointed, dark green leaves with burgundy purple undersides; soft, fine hairs cover the leaves; provide consistent moisture and humidity; should not be watered or misted with tap water, distilled or filtered is best

Features & Attributes

Furry Feather Calathea's attractive tomentose pointy leaves emerge chartreuse, turning dark green in color with curious burgundy undersides throughout the year on a plant with an upright spreading habit of growth. The burgundy stems are very effective and add to the plant's interest.

This is an herbaceous evergreen houseplant with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its relatively coarse texture stands it apart from other indoor plants with finer foliage. This plant should not require much pruning, except when necessary to keep it looking its best.



Furry Feather Calathea foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

When grown indoors, Furry Feather Calathea can be expected to grow to be about 3 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 24 inches. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 5 years. This houseplant performs well in both bright or indirect sunlight and strong artificial light, and can therefore be situated in almost any well-lit room or location. 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 will benefit from a regular feeding with a general-purpose fertilizer with every second or third watering. 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.