Gecko Calathea

Calathea 'Gecko'



Gecko Calathea foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 20 inches

Spread: 16 inches

Sunlight: ◐

Hardiness Zone: 10b

Other Names: Bicajoux Gecko Calathea

Description:

A popular houseplant with large, oval leaves of deep green with silver-green variegation and margins; prefers bright, indirect sunlight; needs consistent moisture and humidity, mist with distilled water frequently in drier environments

Features & Attributes

Gecko Calathea's attractive oval leaves remain dark green in color with showy light green variegation throughout the year on a plant with an upright spreading habit of growth.

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.

Planting & Growing

When grown indoors, Gecko Calathea can be expected to grow to be about 20 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 16 inches. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 5 years. This houseplant should be situated in a location that that gets indirect sunlight at most, 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 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.