

Swedish Ivy, Swedish Begonia, Creeping Charlie (*Plectranthus verticillatus*)

Growing Instructions



Hardiness: USDA Zone 11. For colder zones, keep as a houseplant or take cuttings in the fall to root and overwinter indoors.

Uses: House plants, hanging baskets, shady ground cover. Can also grow in part sun. I have read that they get more blooms in more sun, so if you don't get a lot of blooms, try moving into more sun.

Propagation is easy. Simply lay a few small (or as many as you like!) sprigs in moist soil and cover lightly, watering regularly.

It is a perennial to USDA Zone 11, but I have had some of these survive under an oak canopy in

zone 9. They make EXCELLENT house plants, growing very well in containers at home or the office.

Swedish Ivy is not an Ivy at all but actually more closely related to mint. It looks more like a succulent with thick, deep green, scalloped leaves. It's trailing habit makes them GREAT in hanging baskets and the white tube shaped flowers are attractive to hummingbirds.

Blooming from late spring until well in the fall, this plant is happy in partial shade to nearly full sun. Extremely easy to grow and drought tolerant, it's a perfect houseplant for those of us who lean towards underwatering rather than overwatering!

Planting instructions:

Your cuttings have small roots on the stems. Plant either in a pot, hanging basket or in the ground in a shady spot covering the roots with **well draining** soil; if you lay the unrooted portion of the plants on the soil, and cover the stem lightly, they'll root, as well, making even stronger plants. Keep soil slightly moist (not soggy, they will rot) until your plants get over the shock of transplanting (about a week), then reduce to average watering; only water when soil is dry. Keep in a warm location. You'll be amazed how fast they grow!

If you have any problem at all, please don't hesitate to email me!

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