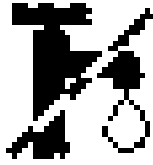


# Red Creeping Thyme



## *Thymus praecox* 'Coccineus'

- **Use:** This amazing plant forms a mat of tough, attractive fragrant greenery that's perfect for rock gardens, areas around walks or steps, and between stepping stones. Its famous for cascading down over retaining walls and rocks. The flowers arrive in late spring into early summer, and cover the plant totally, almost obscuring the foliage.
- For something so attractive, creeping thyme is as durable and tough as most lawn grasses. Many gardeners who grow it even use it in areas where it gets light foot traffic! And it goes right on being beautiful and green, with wonderful flowers every year.
- **Exposure/Soil:** Tolerates full sun to part shade. Water regularly, when top 3 in. of soil is dry to start. Little water needed once established. This thyme needs sharp drainage to succeed. Over watering will impair growth.
- **Growth:** Moderate grower 3-6" tall x 8-10" wide and continues to spread by underground shoots.
- **Hardiness:** Zone 5-10, Perennial
- **Foliage:** Evergreen. Forms a dense, flat mat of evergreen, dark green leaves. In fall, the foliage turns a beautiful bronze. Although leaves are aromatic, strength of scent varies according to season and habitat and leaves are usually not considered to be of culinary quality. Clusters of tiny, tubular, deep pink flowers appear in summer.
- **Flower:** Smothered in bright magenta-red flowers from early thru midsummer.



Thymus or thymon is Greek for "courage." Through the centuries it has been used for traditions relating to this theme. Roman soldiers bathed in thyme water, European knights carried thyme tokens. Other folklore talks of thyme as being the home of fairies.