

Christmas Fern



Polystichum acrostichoides

- **Use:** Christmas fern got its name because it stays green right through the holiday season. It is a robust, leathery fern which has glossy, green fronds year-round. Very easy to establish and grow where conditions are right. It requires cool, moist, well-drained soil in shade. In the right spot, it can be a good, evergreen border or accent plant. Though often used as a groundcover, it is a clumping fern, not forming a continuous, undifferentiated carpet the way some ferns do.
- **Exposure/Soil:** Prefers filtered shade in moist humus rich soil. Will grow in more sun with adequate moisture. Use slow release fertilizer two times a year.
- **Growth:** Will grow 12" to 36" tall and spreads slowly up to 24" wide.
- **Hardiness:** Zone 3-9; Perennial
- **Foliage:** Evergreen; . The fronds grow in clusters from a crownless rootstock and range from 1-2 ft. in length. Fertile fronds are taller. The once-divided fronds with pointed pinnae result in a medium to coarse texture. The silvery fiddleheads emerge in early spring.
- **Flower:** none

Evergreen, shade-loving, and deer resistant.

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