

Gem Box Inkberry



Ilex glabra 'Gem Box'

- **Use:** This cool new dwarf, broadleaf evergreen looks more like a boxwood than an inkberry. A dense, ball-shaped plant, Gem Box ilex has small, dainty, dark green leaves with attractive red tips during the spring flush. It maintains good branching right to the ground so it never looks bare-legged like other cultivars may. It's great as a small evergreen hedge or used as a container specimen in milder climates.
- **Exposure/Soil:** Full sun-part shade. Well-drained soil, not soggy. Water the 1st two years for best growth. If it doesn't rain for 7-10 days, then water until established. For fastest growth use slow release fertilizer two times a year!
- **Growth:** An easy to grow shrub reaching 2 to 3' tall and wide.
- **Hardiness:** **Zone** 5-9; shrub
- **Foliage:** Evergreen. Dark evergreen foliage.
- **Flower:** Greenish white flowers appear in spring, but are relatively inconspicuous. If pollinated, female flowers give way to pea-sized, jet black, berry-like drupes (inkberries as it were) which mature in early fall and persist throughout winter to early spring unless consumed by local bird populations.



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