

Hardy Fern Foundation

Choosing the right fern for your site

As exotic as some ferns may appear, they are very easy to grow. Woodland or shade loving ferns appreciate an organic, evenly moist, well drained soil. This can be achieved by adding compost or other organic matter to your existing soil. (If you use manure, be sure it is well rotted or aged.) Most ferns do well in part shade or dappled sunlight, but there are many which will do well with quite a bit of sun, provided they get enough water. Ferns will also benefit from a moderate layer of mulch (compost is best) and aside from this, do not need additional fertilizer. Ferns require minimal maintenance throughout the year. Unless you want to share a fern with a friend these wonderful plants rarely need to be divided. Deciduous ferns can be trimmed as the fronds yellow in late fall and early winter. Evergreen ferns do best if the older fronds are trimmed off in late winter or early spring, just before the new growth starts. As with other perennials, the best time to plant is during the spring and fall when the rain is plentiful. Ferns offer a wide range of texture and color for the garden and you will find they can be used in a variety of ways...some that may even surprise you!

To find out more information about ferns visit our web site at:
www.hardyferns.org

Evergreen Ferns

Adiantum	venustum	Himalayan maidenhair
Arachniodes	simplicior var. variegata	
Asplenium	scolopendrium	Hart's tongue fern
Asplenium	trichomanes	Maidenhair spleenwort
Blechnum	chilense	
Blechnum	penna-marina	Alpine water fern
Blechnum	spicant	Deer fern
Cyrtomium	spp.	Holly fern
Dryopteris	championii	Champion's wood fern
Dryopteris	erythrosora	Autumn fern
Dryopteris	formosana	Formosan wood fern
Dryopteris	lepidopoda	Sunset fern
Dryopteris	wallichiana	Wallich's wood fern
Polystichum	braunii	Braun's holly fern
Polystichum	neolobatum	Long-eared hollyfern
Polystichum	polyblepharum	Tassel fern
Polystichum	setiferum	Soft shield fern

Sun Tolerant Ferns

Asplenium	trichomanes	Maidenhair spleenwort
Athyrium	filix-femina	Lady fern
Blechnum	chilense	
Blechnum	penna-marina	Alpine water fern
Ceterach	officinatum	Rusty-back fern
Dryopteris	affinis	Scaly male fern
Dryopteris	x complexa	
Dryopteris	erythrosora	Autumn fern
Dryopteris	filix-mas	Male fern
Osmunda	regalis	Royal fern
Polypodium	glycyrrhiza	Licorice fern
Polystichum	munitum	Sword fern

Ferns for Wet Soils

Dryopteris	celsa	Log fern
Dryopteris	carthusiana	Toothed wood fern
Matteuccia	struthiopteris	Ostrich fern
Onoclea	sensibilis	Sensitive fern
Osmunda	cinnamomea	Cinnamon fern
Osmunda	regalis	Royal fern

Ferns for Deep Shade

Adiantum	aleuticum	Western maidenhair fern
Asplenium	scolopendrium	Hart's tongue fern
Athyrium	filix-femina	Lady fern
Blechnum	spicant	Deer fern
Cyrtomium	(all species)	Holly ferns
Dryopteris	dilatata	Broad wood fern
Dryopteris	filix-mas	Male fern
Gymnocarpium	dryopteris	Oak fern
Polypodium	glycyrrhiza	Licorice fern
Polystichum	acrostichoides	Christmas fern
Polystichum	braunii	Braun's holly fern
Polystichum	munitum	Sword fern
Polystichum	setiferum	Soft shield fern

Drought-tolerant Ferns

Athyrium	filix-femina	Lady fern
Blechnum	penna-marina	Alpine water fern
Dryopteris	filix-mas	Male fern
Polypodium	glycyrrhiza	Licorice fern
Polystichum	braunii	Braun's holly fern
Polystichum	munitum	Sword fern
Polystichum	neolobatum	Long-eared hollyfern

Groundcover Ferns

Adiantum	venustum	Himalayan maidenhair
Blechnum	penna-marina	Alpine water fern
Blechnum	spicant	Deer fern
Doodia	australis	Rasp fern
Gymnocarpium	dryopteris (disjuncta)	Oak fern
Matteuccia	struthiopteris	Ostrich fern
Onoclea	sensibilis	Sensitive fern
Polystichum	munitum	Sword fern
Thelypteris	decursive-pinnata	Japanese beech fern
Woodwardia	areolata	Netted chain fern

*Hardy ferns...the essential
garden element.*

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Ferns for Containers

Adiantum	aleuticum	Western maidenhair fern
Arachniodes	simplicior var. variegata	
Asplenium	scolopendrium	Hart's tongue fern
Asplenium	trichomanes	Maidenhair spleenwort
Cyrtomium	spp.	Holly fern
Dryopteris	affinis	Scaly male fern
Dryopteris	erythrosora	Autumn fern
Dryopteris	lepidopoda	Sunset fern
Osmunda	regalis	Royal fern
Polystichum	setiferum	Soft shield fern
Polystichum	tsus-simense	Korean rock fern

Very Cold-Hardy Ferns

Adiantum	aleuticum	Western maidenhair fern
Asplenium	trichomanes	Maidenhair spleenwort
Athyrium	filix-femina	Lady fern
Athyrium	niponicum pictum	Japanese painted fern
Osmunda	spp.	
Polypodium	vulgare	Common polypody
Polystichum	acrostichoides	Christmas fern
Polystichum	braunii	Braun's holly fern

Native Ferns

Adiantum	aleuticum	Western maidenhair fern
Adiantum	aleuticum 'Subpumilum'	Dwarf western maidenhair
Asplenium	trichomanes	Maidenhair spleenwort
Blechnum	spicant	Deer fern
Dryopteris	expansa	Northern wood fern
Gymnocarpium	dryopteris (disjuncta)	Oak fern
Polypodium	amorphum	Mountain polypody
Polypodium	glycyrrhiza	Licorice fern
Polystichum	munitum	Sword fern