

Calathea species

(Peacock Plant)

Calatheas are about 300 species of evergreen, rhizomatous perennials from tropical Central and South America. Most form clumps and slowly spread from the tubers or rhizomes We grow Calateas for their ornately leaves. The large shiny leaves are elliptical to oval and often marked with blotches, streaks or stripes of color. They are waxy, light to dark green and often backed with red or purple. Calathea flowers are inconspicuous and usually produced in pairs among the leaves. The fruit is an insignificant capsule. These tropical plants are grown outside only in the warmest most humid locations. They prefer rich high organic soil with good drainage. As soon as the humidity drops the leaves start dropping or turning brown. They need moderate light. It performs well in a container on a deck or patio in the shade.



Plant Image

Landscape Information

<b>French Name:</b> Calathea, Plante paon
<b>Pronunciation:</b> kal-luhth-EE-uh species
<b>Plant Type:</b> Groundcover
<b>Origin:</b> Tropical America
<b>Heat Zones:</b> 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12
<b>Hardiness Zones:</b> 10, 11, 12, 13
<b>Uses:</b> Indoor, Container, Ground cover
<b>Size/Shape</b>
<b>Growth Rate:</b> Moderate
<b>Tree Shape:</b> Spreading, Upright
<b>Canopy Symmetry:</b> Symmetrical
<b>Canopy Density:</b> Medium
<b>Canopy Texture:</b> Medium
<b>Height at Maturity:</b> Less than 0.5 m
<b>Spread at Maturity:</b> Less than 50 cm
<b>Time to Ultimate Height:</b> 2 to 5 Years

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Flower Image

### Botanical Description

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#### Foliage

**Leaf Arrangement:** Spiral

**Leaf Venation:** Pinnate

**Leaf Persistence:** Evergreen

**Leaf Type:** Simple

**Leaf Blade:** 10 - 20

**Leaf Shape:** Ovate

**Leaf Margins:** Entire

**Leaf Textures:** Leathery, Glossy, Coarse

**Leaf Scent:** No Fragrance

**Color(growing season):** Variegated

**Color(changing season):** Copper

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#### Flower

**Flower Showiness:** True

**Flower Size Range:** 3 - 7

**Flower Type:** Panicle

**Flower Sexuality:** Monoecious (Bisexual)

**Flower Scent:** No Fragrance

**Flower Color:** White

**Seasons:** Year Round

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#### Fruit

**Fruit Type:** Berry

**Fruit Showiness:** False

**Fruit Size Range:** 0 - 1.5

**Fruit Colors:** Brown

**Seasons:** Year Round

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Leaf Image

### Horticulture Management

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#### Tolerance

**Frost Tolerant:** No

**Heat Tolerant:** Yes

**Drought Tolerant:** No

**Salt Tolerance:** Poor

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#### Requirements

**Soil Requirements:** Clay, Loam

**Soil Ph Requirements:** Neutral

**Water Requirements:** High, Moderate

**Light Requirements:** Part, Shade

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#### Management

**Toxity:** No

**Invasive Potential:** No

**Fruit/ Leaves/ Flowers litter:** No

**Surface Rooting:** No

**Life Span:** Less than 25

**Diseases:** Leaf Spots

**Edible Parts:**

**Pests:** Mites, Nematodes, Caterpillars, Scales, Mealy-Bug

**Plant Propagations:** Division

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## MORE IMAGES



Other Image