Calathea crocata

(Enternal flame)

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

French Name: Calathea, Plante paon

Pronounciation: ka-LAY-thee-uh kro-KAY-tuh

Plant Type: Groundcover Origin: Tropical America

Heat Zones: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12

Hardiness Zones: 11, 12, 13
Uses: Indoor, Container

Size/Shape

Growth Rate: Fast **Tree Shape:** Upright

Canopy Symmetry: Irregular Canopy Density: Medium Canopy Texture: Medium

Height at Maturity: Less than 0.5 m Spread at Maturity: Less than 50 cm Time to Ultimate Height: 2 to 5 Years

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Flower Image

Botanical Description

Foliage

Leaf Arrangement: Spiral Leaf Venation: Pinnate

Leaf Persistance: Evergreen

Leaf Type: Simple Leaf Blade: 5 - 10 cm Leaf Shape: Ovate Leaf Margins: Entire

Leaf Textures: Leathery, Glossy

Leaf Scent: No Fragance

Color(growing season): Green, Purple,

Variegated

Color(changing season): Green, Purple

Flower

Flower Showiness: True Flower Size Range: 3 - 7

Flower Sexuality: Monoecious (Bisexual)

Flower Scent: No Fragance Flower Color: Orange Seasons: Year Round

Fruit

Fruit Type: Berry

Fruit Showiness: False Fruit Colors: Brown Seasons: Year Round

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Leaf Image

Horticulture Management

Tolerance

Frost Tolerant: No Heat Tolerant: Yes Drought Tolerant: No Salt Tolerance: Poor

Requirements

Soil Requirements: Clay, Loam Soil Ph Requirements: Neutral

Water Requirements: High, Moderate Light Requirements: Part, Shade

Management

Toxity: No

Invasive Potential: No

Susceptibility to Pests and Diseases: No Pruning Requirement: No pruning at all

Fruit/ Leaves/ Flowers litter: No

Surface Rooting: Yes Life Span: Less than 25 Diseases: Leaf Spots Edible Parts: None

Pests: Mites, Nematodes, Scales, Aphids

Plant Propagations: Division