

# Lakeshore Garden Centres

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## Montgomery Ivy



### Montgomery Ivy

*Hedera helix 'Montgomery'*

Height: 15 feet

Spread: 3 feet

Sunlight: ○ ● ●

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Other Names: English Ivy

#### Description:

This evergreen climber or dense groundcover features large, shiny, deep green foliage on red stems; benefits from some protection from sun and wind in cold winters; very adaptable and vigorous, will cover walls, trees and fences quickly

#### Ornamental Features

Montgomery Ivy's attractive large glossy lobed leaves emerge chartreuse in spring, turning dark green in colour the rest of the year on a plant with a spreading habit of growth. The brick red stems can be quite attractive.

#### Landscape Attributes

Montgomery Ivy is a multi-stemmed annual with a ground-hugging habit of growth. Its medium texture blends into the garden, but can always be balanced by a couple of finer or coarser plants for an effective composition.

This is a high maintenance plant that will require regular care and upkeep, and can be pruned at anytime. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Invasive

Montgomery Ivy is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Container Planting
- Hanging Baskets



*Montgomery Ivy foliage*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

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### Planting & Growing

Montgomery Ivy will grow to be about 15 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. As a climbing vine, it should either be planted near a fence, trellis or other landscape structure where it can be trained to grow upwards on it, or allowed to trail off a retaining wall or slope. Although it's not a true annual, this fast-growing plant can be expected to behave as an annual in our climate if left outdoors over the winter, usually needing replacement the following year. As such, gardeners should take into consideration that it will perform differently than it would in its native habitat.

This plant performs well in both full sun and full shade. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. This plant should not require much in the way of fertilizing once established, although it may appreciate a shot of general-purpose fertilizer from time to time early in the growing season. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America, and parts of it are known to be toxic to humans and animals, so care should be exercised in planting it around children and pets.

Montgomery Ivy is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor containers and hanging baskets. Because of its spreading habit of growth, it is ideally suited for use as a 'spiller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the edges where it can spill gracefully over the pot. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.