Calico Ornamental Pepper

Capsicum annuum 'Calico'

Calico Ornamental Pepper fruit
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 12 inches

Spread: 16 inches

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Other Names: Ornamental Chili, Chili Pepper

Description:

An attractive ornamental pepper with both colorful fruit and dazzling foliage; leaves are speckled with shades of green, creamy white and purple, fruits are glossy black oblong peppers that mature to red; an interesting indoor accent plant

Features & Attributes

Calico Ornamental Pepper's attractive pointy leaves remain dark green in colour with showy creamy white variegation and tinges of purple throughout the year on a plant with an upright spreading habit of growth. It features subtle white star-shaped flowers with purple overtones dangling from the stems from late spring to mid summer. The black oblong fruit is edible and has a spicy taste and a crisp texture. Note that in general, it can be difficult to get plants to reliably produce fruit indoors; this may be a challenge best reserved for adventurous and experienced gardeners. The purple stems can be quite attractive and add to the plant's interest.

This is an herbaceous houseplant with an upright spreading habit of growth. This plant should not require much pruning, except when necessary to keep it looking its best.

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Planting & Growing

When grown indoors, Calico Ornamental Pepper can be expected to grow to be about 12 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 16 inches. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 1 years. This houseplant requires direct sun for optimal performance, and should therefore be situated in a room that gets bright sunlight for a good part of the day; it is not a good choice for rooms lit only by artificial light. It is very adaptable to both dry and moist soil, but will not tolerate any standing water. The surface of the soil shouldn't be allowed to dry out completely, and so you should expect to water this plant once and possibly even twice each week. Be aware that your particular watering schedule may vary depending on its location in the room, the pot size, plant size and other conditions; if in doubt, ask one of our experts in the store for advice. It is not particular as to soil type or pH; an average potting soil should work just fine.

There are many factors that will affect the ultimate height, spread and overall performance of a plant when grown indoors; among them, the size of the pot it's growing in, the amount of light it receives, watering frequency, the pruning regimen and repotting schedule. Use the information described here as a guideline only; individual performance can and will vary. Please contact the store to speak with one of our experts if you are interested in further details concerning recommendations on pot size, watering, pruning, repotting, etc.

-- THIS IS A HOUSEPLANT AND IS NOT MEANT TO SURVIVE THE WINTER OUTDOORS IN OUR CLIMATE --