

## **Leatherleaf Fern**

*Rumohra adiantiformis*

Although most recognized as the standard greenery in flower arrangements, Leatherleaf Fern is an interesting addition to any interior plant collection.

**Basics:** Leatherleaf Fern prefers bright indirect light with no direct sun. Do not keep the soil continuously moist but allow to dry slightly between waterings. Cool to average home temperatures are best. Leatherleaf Ferns do not require high humidity. When growth is active, fertilizer can be applied at  $\frac{1}{4}$  -  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the recommended concentration every 4-6 weeks.

**Special Care:** Hot air drafts from heater vents can cause the edges of the leaflets to appear scorched. Leatherleaf Fern has a moderate to fast growth rate.

**Potential Pest Problems:** Leatherleaf Fern can become infested with mealybugs, spider mites, and scale insects. Slugs or snails can also be a problem for outdoor plants in shaded conditions.

**Propagation:** Leatherleaf Fern is best propagated by division.

### **Reference:**

Helmer, Jane Coleman. *Pictorial Guide to House Plants*. Ed. Karla S. Decker Hodge. Kalamazoo, Michigan: Merchants Company, 1993. 108.

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