

# Currently Available

*Adiantum pedatum*  
Northern Maidenhair Fern

*Arachniodes simplicior* 'Variegata'  
East Indian Holly Fern

*Athyrium*  
Lady  
Lady in Red  
Japanese Painted

*Cyrtomium falcatum rochfordianum*  
Japanese Holly Fern

*Dennstaedtia punctilobula*  
Hayscented Fern

*Dryopteris*  
Autumn  
Brilliant Autumn  
Dixie Wood  
Evergreen Wood  
Log  
Male Robust  
Mexican Male  
Shaggy Shield

*Matteuccia pensylvanica*  
Ostrich Fern

*Osmunda*  
Cinnamon  
Royal Fern

*Polystichum*  
Christmas  
Korean Rock  
Tassel

*Thelypteris decursive-pinnata*  
Japanese Beech Fern



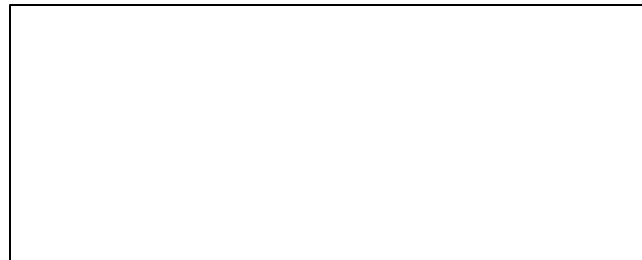
# The Beauty of Hardy Ferns

The fern family, Polypodiaceae (Polypody Family) is a diverse and varied family. Like a true family, there are short and tall, fat and skinny, something for everyone!

- Many ferns are evergreen
- Winter interest in the fertile fronds
- Colorful foliage
- Loves moist and wet environments
- Natives can be very drought tolerant
- Create woodland settings
- Sizes range from 12" to 6'
- Fine and bold textures
- Useful in cut arrangements



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has prepared this brochure for



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# Hardy Ferns



Hardy ferns have been growing in Maryland since before the dinosaurs. This is one tough plant! Ferns require only organic enriched soil and ample moisture, and SHADE. Many can adapt to unfavorable conditions and thrive. Without flowers, your landscape can be filled with unique and interesting foliage patterns.

For detailed plant information visit  
[www.growingforyou.com](http://www.growingforyou.com)

## Why

### Hardy Ferns

Ferns are non-flowering plants that reproduce not with seeds but with spores. Ferns have outlived the dinosaurs - goes to show what a tough plant they are! Spores are nearly microscopic reproductive cells that are found on the backs of the frond, the frond is what the leaf structure is called.

If cool shade is the basis of your garden spot, hardy ferns provide a rich tapestry of colors,

shapes and sizes. No garden setting can soothe on a hot summer day like a ferny glade. Used *en masse* or combined with lots of shade loving perennials, ferns lend a sophisticated aura to the landscape. Whether evergreen through cold months or deciduous (dying back to the ground till spring) there is a fern for your garden.

There are also ferns that are stoloniferous,

forming large clumps. Ferns are so eager to reproduce, tiny ferns can be found in rock crevices, tucked between tree roots, in the edging along paved roads. But they all need the same thing!

SHADE!



## How to Use

### Hardy Ferns

All ferns need at least some shade. Extra moisture can help some tolerate more sun, but they all require shade. In heavy shade, it's hard to find blooming plants, so we rely on texture and foliage color. A few ferns have both colorful foliage and fine or bold texture. By mixing bold and fine textures with hues from pale green to deep dark green, a rich tapestry will appear. The light lime and gray-green fronds of many ferns have contrasting wine-red or burgundy stems or multi-colored fronds.

Tall ferns are very useful as a backdrop for your shady garden. Big and boldly textured at 3-4', these tall ferns anchor your shady bed and serve as the frame for other shorter ferns. Several

of the tallest ferns also have sterile and fertile fronds. As the deciduous sterile fronds go winter dormant, the fertile fronds will remain upright during the winter to provide garden interest. These sterile fronds can be used in dried arrangements and Christmas decorations.

Small or border ferns can line walkways, fill in areas, or *show off* other plants.

Mid-sized ferns will fill in the space between the large and small ferns, adding bold and fine textures and a variety of hues.



## Selection of Hardy Ferns

### JAPANESE PAINTED FERN

2004 PERENNIAL PLANT OF THE YEAR

Every year the membership of The Perennial Plant Association votes for its Perennial of the Year. This is the first year that a FERN has been honored with this title. The Perennial of the Year has to be exceptional in many ways. This fern should be at the top of everyone's list for the shady garden.

### Evergreen all year

Autumn Fern, Brilliant Autumn Fern, Christmas Fern, Evergreen Wood Fern, Male Robust Fern

### Native to America

Autumn Fern, Brilliant Autumn Fern, Christmas Fern, Cinnamon Fern, Evergreen Wood Fern, Hayscented Fern, Lady Fern, Red-stemmed Lady Fern, Log Fern, Northern Maidenhair Fern, Ostrich Fern, Royal Fern

### Drought Tolerant

Christmas Fern, Hayscented Fern

### Multicolored Foliage

Autumn Fern, Brilliant Autumn Fern, East Indian Holly Fern, Japanese Painted Fern, Korean Rock Fern, Red-stemmed Lady Fern