



Kenilworth Ivy Planting Guide

About Ivy

Kenilworth Ivy, *Cymbalaria muralis*, known by various names such as ivy-leaved toadflax or creeping Jenny, captivates with its delicate and charming trailing nature. Originating from parts of Europe, this plant has gained popularity for its capacity to gracefully spread over walls, rocks, and other surfaces in gardens.

With scalloped leaves and pretty lilac-colored blooms resembling miniature snapdragons, Kenilworth Ivy also makes a wonderful ground cover plant. Its growth habit keeps it close to the ground, with trailing stems that take root upon touching the soil, creating an intricate pattern of growth.

When to Plant

Embark on your Kenilworth Ivy journey by sowing its seeds indoors around 10 weeks before the expected last frost. For successful transplanting, choosing a location featuring proper drainage and protection from intense sunlight is crucial. Daytime temps should be at least 60°F.

Where to Plant

This versatile plant finds its place in zones with cool to moderate temperatures, making it adaptable to a range of climates. While it thrives in partial to full shade, it can tolerate some exposure to morning sunlight. For optimal growth, ensure your soil is well-draining and moderately fertile.

Kenilworth Ivy is particularly valued as an effective ground cover in areas where other plants might struggle due to shade. Its versatile nature allows it to be placed strategically, whether nestled between stepping stones, adorning garden pathways, or artfully cascading over walls. Its delicate flowers make it a graceful addition to rock gardens, containers, and hanging baskets, elevating their visual appeal.



How to Plant

Sow Kenilworth Ivy seeds indoors 10 weeks before the last frost is expected. Using starter trays, sow the ground cover seeds on the surface of sterile soil, gently pressing the seed into the soil to achieve good seed-to-soil contact. Kenilworth Ivy seeds possess the unique requirement of needing light to successfully germinate, so be careful to press them into the soil but do not cover them.

Expect germination after two to three weeks. After the danger of frost has passed, begin the hardening off process, which you can read more about here. Transplant the young plants into the garden, ensuring a space of six to twelve inches between plants will support their healthy development.

As your plants begin to mature, expand your Kenilworth Ivy collection through division or stem cuttings. Clump division involves gently separating the plant into smaller clusters, which can then be replanted to foster growth. For those who enjoy experimentation, rooting stem cuttings in water or a well-draining medium presents an opportunity for propagation.

Caring for Ivy

Nurturing Kenilworth Ivy is more straightforward than its delicate appearance might suggest. Maintaining soil moisture at a consistent level—without allowing it to become waterlogged—promotes healthy growth. Regularly introduce balanced water-soluble fertilizer every four to six weeks during the growing season to provide essential nutrients. Pruning comes into play to manage its growth and prevent it from becoming overly invasive. Removing spent flowers serves a dual purpose: encouraging continuous blooming while maintaining the plant's aesthetic. While moderately frost-tolerant, providing protection during extreme cold spells contributes to its resilience.

Vigilance is required to ward off pests such as slugs and snails, particularly in damp surroundings. Reassuringly, Kenilworth Ivy is non-toxic, providing a safe coexistence with both pets and humans.