

Common houseleek

Sempervivum tectorum Also known as: **Roof houseleek, Sengreen, Thunder plant, Poor Jan's leaf, Sempervivum arvernense, Sempervivum densum**

Rating: 5.0 (2 votes)



This description is for **Common houseleek** (*Sempervivum tectorum*):

Tiny bi-coloured rosettes make *sempervivum tectorum* one of the most popular mat-forming evergreen succulent perennials around. The pin-sharp, ovate leaves in its dense rosettes are mainly dark green but its outer leaves are blue-green, flushed red nearing the tip. It is this feature that has inspired the common name, the red-leaved houseleek, though it is more readily known as the common houseleek. In summer, thick red stems grow from the centre of individual rosettes and produce loose clusters of dark pink or purple, star-shaped flowers. The common houseleek thrives in moist but well-drained sandy or loamy soil in full sun but sheltered locations. Perfect for gravel beds and rockeries, cultivating indoors is popular too. Pruning after flowering is advised.



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Plant	Environment	Usage
Known dangers? no	Acidity Acidic Neutral Alkaline	Standard category Cacti & succulents Succulents
Height [m] 0.15	Hardiness zone Z4-8	Grown for Ornamental Foliage

Plant	Environment	Usage
Spread [m] 0.35	Heat zone H8-1	Creative category Kid Approved For Beginners For every season Tough survivors
Dominant flower colour Pink	Winter temperatures [°C] -34 - -7	Garden type Indoor or winter garden Cottage garden Rock garden Containers
Flower Fragrance No, neutral please	Heat days 0 - 120	Garden spaces Flower beds Walls, trellises and pergolas Ground cover
Flowering seasons Late spring Early summer Mid summer	Moisture well-drained	Gardening expertise beginner
Foliage in spring Green	Soil type sandy loams	Time to reach full size up to 10 years
Foliage in summer Green	Sun requirements Full sun	
Foliage in Autumn Green	Exposure Exposed Sheltered	
Foliage in winter Green		
Propagation methods offsets		
Growth habit Mat-forming		