

# Sword fern

*Polystichum munitum* Also known as: **Western sword fern, Aspidium munitum, Polystichum munitum var. incisoserratum, Aspidium munitum var. incisoserratum, Polystichum solitarium**

Rating: 5.0 ( 2 votes)



This description is for **Sword fern (Polystichum munitum)**:

Another highly attractive large evergreen fern, polystichum munitum grows in perfectly formed clumps that make it a highly attractive garden option. Its foliage comprises glossy, dark green, sword-shaped fronds – a fact that inspires its common name, the sword fern – made up of narrow, pinnate leaflets with edges often serrated with sharp tips. On the underside of the leaflets are dozens of bright yellow spores. The sword fern thrives in cool, moisture-retentive acidic soil, preferably out of the harsh stare of direct sunlight. It is ideal as woodland under-planting, but also complements waterside locations, like ponds and lakes. Pruning ensures a denser growth, so remove dead fronds quickly.



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Plant	Environment	Usage
<b>Known dangers?</b> no	<b>Acidity</b> Acidic Neutral	<b>Standard category</b> Grasses, ferns & bamboo Ferns
<b>Height [m]</b> 0.9 - 1.5	<b>Hardiness zone</b> Z3-8	<b>Grown for</b> Ornamental Foliage

Plant	Environment	Usage
<b>Spread [m]</b> 1.2	<b>Heat zone</b> H8-1	<b>Creative category</b> For Beginners We love the dark For every season Author's choice
<b>Dominant flower colour</b> Inconspicuous or absent	<b>Winter temperatures [°C]</b> -40 - -7	<b>Garden type</b> Woodland Rock garden
<b>Flower Fragrance</b> No, neutral please	<b>Heat days</b> 0 - 120	<b>Garden spaces</b> Shade Ground cover Borders
<b>Foliage in spring</b> Green	<b>Moisture</b> well-drained but frequently watered poorly-drained	<b>Gardening expertise</b> beginner
<b>Foliage in summer</b> Green	<b>Soil type</b> sandy Clay chalky loams	<b>Time to reach full size</b> up to 10 years
<b>Foliage in Autumn</b> Green	<b>Sun requirements</b> Partial shade Full shade	
<b>Foliage in winter</b> Green	<b>Exposure</b> Exposed Sheltered	
<b>Awards?</b> Yes, let it smell		
<b>Propagation methods</b> division Spores		
<b>Growth habit</b> Clump-forming		