Little Jewel Japanese Cedar

Cryptomeria japonica 'Little Jewel'



Little Jewel Japanese Cedar
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 3 feet

Spread: 4 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 6

Other Names: Dwarf Japanese Cedar

Description:

A compact version of the species with fine foliage, suitable for smaller garden or landscape areas; turns brownish in winter and greens up again in spring

Ornamental Features

Little Jewel Japanese Cedar is a dwarf conifer which is primarily valued in the garden for its interestingly mounded form. It has attractive green evergreen foliage which emerges light green in spring. The scale-like sprays of foliage are highly ornamental and turn antique red in the fall, which persists throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Little Jewel Japanese Cedar is a multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a mounded form. It lends an extremely fine and delicate texture to the landscape composition which should be used to full effect.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub. When pruning is necessary, it is recommended to only trim back the new growth of the current season, other than to remove any dieback. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Little Jewel Japanese Cedar is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Vertical Accent
- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening

Planting & Growing

Little Jewel Japanese Cedar will grow to be about 3 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 4 feet. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 60 years or more.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is particular about its soil conditions, with a strong preference for rich, acidic soils, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is quite intolerant of urban pollution, therefore inner city or urban streetside plantings are best avoided, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.