

Pachysandra

Also called japanese spurge

(Pachysandra terminalis)

Forms lush carpet of growth 6 to 8 inches tall. Leaves attractively saw-toothed at edges. Evergreen. White flower heads appear above foliage in spring. Inconspicuous white berries may appear later.

Zone: 4-9

Light: shade

Comments

One of the most attractive and widely grown ground covers on level ground or on slopes in light to deep shade. Spreads slowly, but worth waiting for. Useful in beds, borders, dense shade under trees, and narrow spaces. Prefers moist, rich soil. An occasional feeding is desirable when grown under trees or where there is root competition. Needs little care. Space plants 6 to 12 inches apart in spring. New plants can be started from cuttings or divisions from old plants. Cover between young plants with coarse mulch to inhibit weeds. Few weeds can grow in dense foliage of established pachysandra.