

# Variegated Green/Purple Wandering Jew

## Aka: Inch Plant "*Tradescantia zebrina*"

### Unrooted Cuttings - Growing Instructions



**Hardiness:** USDA Zone 9. For colder zones, keep as a houseplant or take cuttings in the fall to overwinter indoors.

**Uses:** House plants, hanging baskets, shady ground cover.

I have grown this as an annual groundcover for several years just by keeping a few sprigs going through the winter in my greenhouse. Propagation is easy. Simply lay a few small (or as many as you like!) sprigs on moist soil, cover lightly with soil and watering regularly.

It is a perennial to USDA Zone 9. They make EXCELLENT house plants, growing very well in containers at home or the office.

#### **Planting instructions:**

Plant either in a pot, hanging basket or on the ground. **Plant in the ground only if temperatures permit**, these root best if kept warm - at least mid 60's – warmer is better. Place them in a shady spot until they are rooted and growing, then they can be moved to part sun or keep them in the shade. If there are any roots on your cuttings, make sure they are completely covered with soil. If there are no roots, then fill your container with well draining, sandy soil up to within 3" of the top of the container. Lay each cutting down in your container so that about 3"-4" of the cutting is touching the soil; let the remainder of the cutting hang over the edge of the container. I have removed the leaves on the end that should go in the soil; if there are any leaves on the part you are covering, remove them before covering the cutting with soil. I suggest placing each cutting facing a different direction (or you can plant each cutting in its own container) then cover the cuttings (fill the remainder of the container) with about 2" – 2.5" of soil. Provide average water; do not over water; use well draining soil, do not let water stand. **If these stay too wet, they will ROT rather than ROOT.** These can survive very dry conditions. Keep in a warm location. Keep moist (but not soggy! Too dry is better than too wet) until you see new growth starting, then they can be reduced to average watering.

If planted outside in zone 9 and warmer, these plants will die back with frost/freezing temps but will return in the spring if they don't get too cold. Mine return every year; they are under an oak canopy but we do get temperatures in the 20's during the winter (although not generally for long durations).

These plants can become invasive in tropical areas - plant with care! These make excellent house plants, as they require very little light.

If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to email me!

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