



Botanical Name	Selaginella erythropus Sanguinea
Common Name	Ruby Red Spikemoss
Mature Size	3 ft x 4 inches
Bloom Color	None
Bloom Period	None
Boom Form	None
Water	Consistent Moisture
Light	Shade
USDA Zone	6, 7, 8, 9, 10
Fragrance	No
Uses	Ground Cover, Potted, House
Special Features	Showy Color, Cold Hardy



Ruby Red Spikemoss or Selaginella erythropus Sanguinea is a wonderfully interesting plant. Despite its delicate and tropical fern-like appearance, it is actually very tough, easy to grow, quite cold hardy and not a fern at all.

Selaginellas are not true ferns, but they do share many characteristics with ferns beyond their cosmetic appearance. They prefer to grow in moderate to deep shade, and to be planted in fertile, well-composted soil with a high organic make-up, they grow slowly, and do not bloom, and adapt well to being grown as houseplants, or on the porch or patio.

There are many interesting Selaginella cultivars, with the Ruby Red being one of the most popular and interesting. The underside of the lacy frond is a brilliant shade of blood red that contrasts nicely with the olive to bronze green shade of the topside.

The growth habit is slow, low-growing and spreading, so it is a good choice for most any shaded spot that needs ground cover. It is also lovely as a potted plant or hanging basket.

In addition to the interesting color and unique texture, perhaps the best feature of Ruby Spikemoss is its exceptional cold hardiness, making it possible to bring in a bit of the exotic, lush look of tropical plants without the work and worry that is typically needed to successfully grow tropicals outside their recommended Zone range.

Selaginellas are evergreen to Zone 8 to 7B, and can be wintered over outdoors in Zone 6 when well established and acclimated where it goes fully dormant and rests through the winter and resprouts in the Spring.

Selaginellas can be successfully transplanted directly into the landscape from the 4-inch pot size, with a few cautions. In Zones 6, 7, and 8 either wait until Spring to order, or transplant into 6-inch pots and wait until the danger of frost and freeze has passed before setting out.

Selaginellas can also be grown as potted plants indefinitely.

- Plant in fertile well-draining, slightly acidic soil with a high organic make-up.
- Locate in medium shade or indoors.
- Maintaining consistent soil moisture is essential.
- Feed a good quality, slow-release fertilizer with the initial planting and once yearly in the Spring after the plant breaks dormancy thereafter.
- Supplement with a water-soluble plant food in between regular annual feeding.
- Protect from freezing until well established.

For quick answers to your growing or planting questions, just email us at emeraldgoddessgardens@gmail.com

If you don't know your USDA Planting Zone, you can check the map on our website site at emeraldgoddessgardens.com