

PLANTS TO READ ABOUT

Medaillon prayer plant: leaf artistry in green and purple

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AI-created scene based on the original shop photo. Size reference: 19 cm pot · 70–80 cm. Decoration is not included; this is not a product photograph to scale.

Grow with knowledge.

A collection for observation and reference. Detailed explanations to help you make care decisions suited to your plant and its position.

Issue September 2026

PLANT PORTRAIT

Goeppertia veitchiana 'Medaillon'

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Botanical identification	Goeppertia veitchiana 'Medaillon'
Family	Marantaceae
Origin	Tropical South America; Medaillon is a cultivated form
Delivery size	19 cm pot · 70–80 cm
Growth and distinctive feature	Clump-forming foliage perennial with broad patterned leaves and purple undersides

Care at a glance

Observe, check and adapt care to the position and season. This table provides guidance for everyday practice.

Topic	What to do	Why it helps
Light	Bright indirect light to bright partial shade.	Protect the leaf pattern from hot direct sunshine.
Water	Keep the root ball slightly moist, allowing the surface to dry a little.	Remove remaining water and avoid complete drying.
Water quality	Suitable room-temperature water as low in salts as possible.	Avoid cold water and a high salt load.
Compost	Humus-rich, airy mixture with good drainage.	Moist roots still need oxygen.
Climate	Even warmth and higher humidity.	Avoid cold draughts and large temperature swings.
Feed	Feed sparingly during growth according to the product instructions.	Consider pre-fertilised compost and the winter rest period.
Leaves	Remove dust carefully and leave young rolled leaves undisturbed.	Preserve healthy patterned leaf surfaces.
Checks	Distinguish normal leaf movement from lasting curling.	Assess the root ball, room climate and pests together.

Knowledge that grows

A medallion on every leaf

The broad oval leaves carry pale, feather-edged markings on a background of varying greens. Dark-purple undersides provide a strong contrast. The shop offers the plant as *Calathea roseapicta* Medaillon. The RHS lists the cultivated form as *Goeppertia veitchiana* Medaillon and gives *Calathea* Medaillon as a synonym. These different trade and specialist names are explained together here. The portrait remains based on the specific leaf pattern shown in the shop offer.

Leaf age and movement provide variety

Young leaves may differ in colour from fully mature ones. The prayer plant also changes its leaf position throughout the day, revealing more or less of the purple back. These normal differences are part of its appeal. The offered form reaches approximately 70–80 cm in overall height in a 19 cm pot. A sufficiently large, bright tabletop allows a good view of the pattern, provided the leaves have space and the plant does not need to be moved constantly.

Provide an even tropical room climate

Choose a warm position with bright indirect light or bright partial shade. Avoid hot direct sun and cold draughts. Stable indoor temperatures around 18–24 °C provide a sensible guide for growing this prayer plant. Higher humidity can support leaf quality, particularly in heated rooms. A hygrometer helps assess it. Provide gentle air exchange without placing the plant in a cold airstream; persistently wet leaves are not the intended goal.

Give room-temperature water according to need

The root ball should remain evenly slightly moist. Let the surface dry a little and then water the compost as needed. The water should not be cold and should contain as few salts as possible. Remove excess water from the outer pot. Demand usually falls in winter; an unchanged summer routine can then waterlog the roots. If leaves remain rolled, check moisture and room conditions first. Not every change in leaf position calls for immediate additional watering.

Airy compost and restrained feeding

A humus-rich, loose mixture with good moisture retention and drainage helps supply the root zone evenly. Repot when roots have clearly filled the pot, without choosing unnecessarily large containers. During growth, feed sparingly according to the product instructions and take existing fertiliser into account. Remove dust gently with a soft damp cloth, supporting the leaf from below. Do not pull young rolled leaves open. Large healthy clumps can be divided, but this requires sufficiently rooted divisions and favourable growing conditions.

Assess care problems across the whole position

Brown edges, yellow leaves or lasting curling can have different causes. Check root moisture, water quality, temperature and humidity together. Inspect undersides for spider mites, mealybugs or other sap-feeding pests. Distinguish pale feather-like patterns from newly developing spots. Following an adjustment, new healthy leaves reveal progress; old brown areas remain damaged. The plant does not need its surroundings redesigned daily, but a suitable stable position and attentive observation.

Pictures and details

Images and descriptions from this portrait. Decorative items are not included in the offer.



Original shop photograph: Medaillon prayer plant. 19 cm pot · 70–80 cm. Natural variations are possible.



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Good to know

Why is Medaillon given different names?

The shop uses a widespread attribution to *roseopicta*; the RHS lists Medaillon under *Goeppertia veitchiana*. The search names are recorded together.

Are the red undersides damage?

No, purple undersides belong to the pictured cultivated form.

Can the plant stand on the dining table?

Yes, if there is enough indirect light, space and a quiet position. It should not need to be carried back and forth constantly.

Does it need water every day?

No. Check the root ball; frequency and quantity depend on moisture, light and temperature.

The matching offer

[Plant in the shop](#)

The linked shop is in German. Product details, availability and delivery information are provided in that shop.

[Read the complete portrait in English](#)



English portrait



Shop offer (in German)