

PLANTS TO READ ABOUT

Leptinella squalida: a fine leaf pattern beside a cool garden edge

Finely feathered leaves trace a little pattern across the soil. *Leptinella squalida* is a low garden perennial, not true moss; it likes a supplied root zone and needs monitoring along its sideways-growing edge.



AI-designed garden scene of one young plant based on the original reference. The selected set determines quantity; surroundings and accessories are not included.

Grow with knowledge.

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

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PLANT PORTRAIT

Leptinella squalida

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Botanical name	Leptinella squalida
Delivery size	9 cm pot per plant · approx. 10–15 cm total height · sets as selected
Habit	Perennial cushion-forming garden plant; creeping stems root at nodes
Foliage	Finely pinnate, green with possible bronze to purple tones; partly evergreen
Flower colour	Small button-like greenish-yellow to yellowish-white heads
Flowering	Summer; small flowers among foliage, no delivery promise
Expected height	Low cushion up to about 10 cm above soil
Expected width	About 0.5–1 m in developed planting; monitor edges
Planting	Spring or early autumn in frost-free soil without waterlogging
Spacing	Shop guidance: 30–35 cm
Position	Partial shade helpful in warmth; sun in cooler situations with assured moisture

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	Choose a bright partially shaded outdoor position and watch stone heat.	Sun is possible in cooler situations; hot dry gaps are harder.
Water	Keep the root zone moist without waterlogging.	This fine perennial should not regularly dry out completely.
Planting	Place a moistened rootball at its previous height in suitable soil.	A narrow dry sandy gap does not automatically offer enough root space.
Soil	Use moisture-retaining draining soil.	Supplied moisture and aerated roots must work together.
Edges	Monitor newly rooted runners near small neighbours.	The low cushion may grow sideways more strongly than it initially appears.
Feeding	Supplement sparingly as needed, allowing for existing supply.	More fertiliser fixes neither drought nor a waterlogged base.
Division	Divide strong older planting in spring if needed.	Divisions need good soil contact and controlled moisture afterwards.
Winter	Shelter containers outdoors and observe winter foliage.	Partly evergreen leaves do not remain equally dense everywhere.

Knowledge that grows

A little leaf like a fine drawing

Leptinella squalida does not develop large leaves. Its finely pinnate segments spread densely over the ground and at first glance recall tiny fern fronds. Botanically it is a flowering perennial in the daisy family. Moss in the shop name does not make it true moss either. Look closely at the pattern: bronze or purple tones may appear among green foliage. The German trade name *Braunes Fiederpolster* describes this possible effect, not a permanently uniform brown appearance. The offer names *Leptinella squalida*; no special nearly black cultivar is added here. Its fine structure is precisely what makes a small garden spot interesting.

Even between stones, it needs soil

At an old garden edge or between suitable stepping stones, the low cushion displays its leaf shape well. What matters is beneath the visible green. A dry gap containing little sand is not automatically suitable. The young plant needs enough draining moisture-retaining soil and accessible watering. Partial shade makes care easier in warmth; sun is more suitable in cooler conditions with assured supply. Check how strongly adjacent stones heat in the afternoon. A pretty green path margin also does not promise regular heavy foot traffic tolerance like a lawn.

Separate delivery height from low garden growth

Sets contain young plants in individual 9 cm pots at approximately 10–15 cm total height including pot. Later the perennial forms low planting up to about 10 cm above ground. These do not conflict because delivery includes the pot. Over the years, the cushion can gain about half a metre to a metre in width. The shop gives 30–35 cm spacing. Lay out pots at planned positions first and leave space beside smaller neighbours. Growth expands wherever stems root at nodes; low height therefore says little about later sideways space needs.

Moisture helps an even start

Spring or early autumn is often favourable in unfrozen soil that is not waterlogged. Thoroughly moisten the delivery rootball, unpot gently and plant at its previous height. Bring loose substrate around it and water slowly. Then check moisture directly in the young root zone. It should not dry completely, but surplus must drain. A small surface splash beside a dried plant is not reliably enough. Check more often along warm stone than in a cool border. This follows actual need rather than a fixed watering calendar detached from weather and root condition.

Flowers remain a quiet detail

In summer, little button-like flower heads may appear on short stems just above the leaves. Depending on the view they look greenish-yellow to yellowish-white and are much more understated than large daisy flowers. Leaf shape still defines the whole. A young delivery without flowers therefore fits the offer and need not be pushed into bloom through extra feeding. New leaves, good soil contact and a supplied rootball initially say more about its start. Look close to discover the tiny heads. It is a fine leaf accent beside the garden here, not a promise of a conspicuous or permanent flower carpet.

Watch the edges and divide older cushions

Creeping stems and rhizomes can expand a suitable area quickly. Where it reaches smaller neighbours, lift unwanted rooted sections individually before several plants mingle. Regular overall cutting is unnecessary. Strong older planting can be divided in spring when needed; the pieces then need suitable soil contact and moisture again. Do not move every thin piece somewhere else and abandon it. With patchy growth, first look for dry or persistently wet spots. An established plant's sideways vigour does not prove every freshly separated small division can manage without watering support.

The garden picture may change in winter

This perennial is partly evergreen; leaf density and colour may change with weather. Temporarily thinner winter growth therefore needs seasonal interpretation. Maintain enough root space and open holes in containers, shelter outdoors and check dryness in frost-free weather. Do not answer every brown patch with more water: check the rootball and drainage. During growth, feed moderately only when needed according to the label. In spring, watch for fresh leaf tips and gently remove dead material. Cooler light, accessible soil and monitored edges keep this delicate pattern an understandably cared-for garden accent.

Pictures and details

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



AI-designed detail of later garden development. No promise of flowering on delivery or lawn-wear tolerance.



Unchanged original shop photograph of a young plant. 9 cm pot per plant, approx. 10–15 cm total height; set as selected.

Good to know

Is it moss?

No. *Leptinella squalida* is a perennial flowering plant with finely pinnate leaves. *Cotula squalida* is an older botanical name.

Why is the brown cushion also green?

Green leaves with possible bronze or purple tones fit the species. The name does not require constantly uniform brown colour.

Does it suit every paving gap?

Only with adequate root space and suitable moisture. A hot dry sandy gap is not automatically a good position.

Is 10-15 cm its later cushion height?

That delivery measurement includes the sales pot. Garden planting remains low, described as up to about 10 cm above soil.

Can I use it as a hard-wearing lawn?

This portrait gives no promise of regular heavy foot traffic tolerance. It presents a garden cushion for suitable edges and gaps.

How do I stop it covering smaller neighbours?

Monitor the sides and lift unwanted rooted sections early. Strong older planting can be divided in spring.

The matching offer

[View plant in the shop ↗](#)

Check the shop for the current price, availability and offer contents.

[Read the complete portrait in English](#)



English portrait



Shop offer