

Botanical Name: Hedera helix

Common Name: English ivy

Type of Plant: dicot; groundcover Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape prostrate, spreading and climbing by aerial rootlets; may  
be either low and mat-like or erect on walls, etc.

Height indefinite Spread indefinite Growth Rate moderate to rapid

Environment:

Exposure outdoor best in partial sun, tolerates both sun and shade

Soil tolerates most but alkaline

Hardiness hardy (all zones); prefers cool habitats

Morphology:

Leaves palmate, alternate, 3-5 lobed, bright shiny green, 2-3"  
across, long petioles, 3-6" long--adult foliage loses lobes, becomes upright

Flowers inconspicuous, greenish white, terminal panicles

Fruit black drupe, 1/8" diameter

Propagation: semihardwood cuttings

Usage: all purpose, large scale ground cover; foliage cover and  
texture erosion control, used as a vine on walls and fences

Landscape Care:

Watering prefers a slightly dry soil

Fertilizing balanced in late spring; late summer (if needed)

Pruning head back as needed to keep in bounds

Pests/Diseases bacterial leaf spot

Special Conditions cut down water and fertilizer to eliminate leaf spot problem

Origin: Europe Family: Araliaceae