

# FABULOUS FOLIAGE

## JAPANESE PAINTED FERN

### ATHYRIUM NIPONICUM

#### FOLIAGE

Colourful foliage, offering triangular, silvery leaves (fronds) that sport an arching habit. Grayish-green with purplish midribs, making them variegated ferns.

#### CULTIVARS

*Athyrium niponicum* – described above, photos on the right.

*Athyrium* 'Ghost' – Frosted apple green fronds emit a ghostly white light in the shade. Dark purple stems hold the broad fronds rigidly upright. Fronds darken slowly to a silvery green with burgundy accents. This selection is taller than many other *Athyriums*. Spreads slowly by shallow rhizomes.

#### FLOWERS

No flowers.

#### HARDINESS ZONE

4 to 8.

#### LIGHT REQUIREMENTS

Light to full shade; foliage brightens up a shady area of a perennial bed.

#### SIZE

Height: 12-30 in. (30-75 cm); Width: 12-30 in. (30-75 cm). Slow growing.

#### PLACEMENT

Woodland / shade gardens. Great in containers as a focal point – needs to be planted in the garden to overwinter.

#### WATER / SOIL REQUIREMENT

Easily grown in average soil. Prefers consistently moist, well-drained soil.

#### PESTS

No serious insect or pest problems.

