

Plant 'Imagination'



Euphorbia polychroma 'Bonfire'

Best grown in dry, well-drained soils in full sun. Appreciates some light afternoon shade in hot summer climates. However, clumps tend to open up and lose their attractive cushion shape in too much shade. Quite tolerant of poor soils, including rocky, sandy ones. Freely self-seeds. Promptly remove spent flowers (shearing plants to shape is one option) to prevent any unwanted self-seeding.

Euphorbia polychroma, commonly called cushion spurge, is a mounding, clump-forming perennial which typically grows in a dome (or cushion) shape to 12-18" tall and as wide on erect, sturdy stems bearing oblong, downy, medium green leaves (to 2" long). Cymes of inconspicuous greenish flowers (lacking both sepals and petals) bloom at the stem ends in spring. Although the flower cymes are not showy, they are subtended by long-lasting, bright sulphur-yellow bracts which are exceptionally showy. Leaves turn red in fall.

The leaves of 'Bonfire' emerge green in spring but the top growth quickly turns deep red, orange, and purple, with the color deepening to burgundy red in mid-summer. The leaves turn a rich red in fall. Its flowers are insignificant but surrounded by colorful yellow to chartreuse bracts. 'Bonfire' has a compact mounding habit growing 1 to 1.5 ft. tall and 1.5 to 2 ft. wide.