



Italian Parsley

Petroselinum crispum 'var. neapolitanum'

Height: 24 inches

Spread: 24 inches

Spacing: 18 inches

Sunlight: ☉

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Other Names: Flat-leaf Parsley

Edible Qualities

Italian Parsley is an annual herb that is commonly grown for its edible qualities. The fragrant ferny compound green leaves are usually harvested from late spring to mid summer. The leaves have a bitter taste and a light fragrance.

The leaves are most often used in the following ways:

- Cooking
- Drying
- Seasoning

Planting & Growing

Italian Parsley will grow to be about 24 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 24 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 18 inches apart. It grows at a fast rate, and tends to be biennial, meaning that it puts on vegetative growth the first year, flowers the second, and then dies.

This plant is typically grown in a designated herb garden. It should only be grown in full sunlight. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.

Italian Parsley is a good choice for the edible garden, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor pots and containers. It can be used either as 'filler' or as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, depending on the height and form of the other plants used in the container planting. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.



Italian Parsley foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder