



# Main Street Michigan Avenue Coleus Solenostemon scutellarioides 'Michigan Avenue'

Hardiness Zone: (annual)

Group/Class: Main Street Series

## **Description:**

This stunning variety features bushy chocolate brown foliage with lime green edges and red variegation; color will not fade in the sun; perfect for patio containers or in the garden; low maintenance; shade or sun, this beauty will flourish all season long



Main Street Michigan Avenue Coleus foliage Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

#### **Ornamental Features**

Main Street Michigan Avenue Coleus' attractive serrated pointy leaves remain brown in color with distinctive lime green edges and tinges of dark red throughout the season on a plant with an upright spreading habit of growth.

## **Landscape Attributes**

Main Street Michigan Avenue Coleus is an herbaceous annual with an upright spreading habit of growth. Its medium texture blends into the garden, but can always be balanced by a couple of finer or coarser plants for an effective composition.

This is a relatively low maintenance plant. The flowers of this plant may actually detract from its ornamental features, so they can be removed as they appear. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Main Street Michigan Avenue Coleus is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Border Edging
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting
- Hanging Baskets



### **Planting & Growing**

Main Street Michigan Avenue Coleus will grow to be about 24 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 12 inches. When grown in masses or used as a bedding plant, individual plants should be spaced approximately 12 inches apart. This fast-growing annual will normally live for one full growing season, needing replacement the following year.

This plant does best in partial shade to shade. It requires an evenly moist well-drained soil for optimal growth, but will die in standing water. 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. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone over the growing season to conserve soil moisture. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America. It can be propagated by cuttings; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Main Street Michigan Avenue Coleus is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor containers and hanging baskets. With its upright habit of growth, it is best suited for use as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.