

# EQUISETUM HYEMALE

## Horsetail



Regular water



Part to full shade



Native to Eurasia, Canada, U.S.

### Why we love it...

Horsetail is a non-flowering, evergreen, ornamental “grass” that craves shade and moisture. This distinctive plant has the rare ability to thrive in a wide range of soils, especially boggy, poorly drained soils that tend to pose a problem for most desert adapted trees and shrubs. It can be submerged in water along edges of ponds or water features, and does well in containers, where it serves as a finely-textured vertical accent.

In Tucson, Horsetail will usually stay green year-round, becoming darker green in winter and standing out dramatically against the surrounding dormant landscape. Though referred to as a “reed” or “grass”, this plant produces spores rather than flowers with pollen, which makes it more like a fern!



**Lydia says:** Horsetail appreciates being divided every few years to keep it from over-crowding!

### Ornamental Grass: *Equisetum hyemale*

**Size (H x W):** 3-4 feet x 1-6 feet (indefinite spread where moisture is available)

**Blooms:** no bloom

**Exposure:** Full to part shade

**Hardiness Zone:** -20° F, USDA Zone 5

**Water:** Moderate

**Pruning:** Winter to early spring, divide every few years

**Growth Rate:** Fast



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