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## Creeping Oregon Grape

*Mahonia repens*

Height: 18 inches

Spread: 24 inches

Sunlight: ○ ● ●

Hardiness Zone: 4

Other Names: Creeping Mahonia

### Description:

A curious evergreen groundcover shrub that spreads by underground runners to fill in an area; clusters of yellow flowers, spiny compound leaves resemble holly and turn purple in fall and through winter; best planted where it will receive some snow cover

### Ornamental Features

Creeping Oregon Grape features showy racemes of fragrant yellow flowers hanging below the branches in mid spring. It has bluish-green evergreen foliage. The spiny pinnately compound leaves turn an outstanding purple in the fall, which persists throughout the winter. It produces black berries from late summer to early fall.

### Landscape Attributes

Creeping Oregon Grape is a multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a ground-hugging habit of growth. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.

This shrub will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and can be pruned at anytime. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Suckering



*Creeping Oregon Grape flowers*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



*Creeping Oregon Grape*  
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Moana Lane Garden Center & Corporate Office  
1100 W. Moana Lane  
Reno, NV 89509  
(775) 825-0600  
(775) 825-0602 - Corporate Office

South Virginia St. Garden Center  
11301 S. Virginia Street  
Reno, NV 89511  
(775) 853-1319

Pyramid Way Garden Center  
3397 Pyramid Way  
Sparks, NV 89431  
(775) 425-4300

Landscape Services & Design Center  
1190 W. Moana Lane  
Reno, NV 89509  
(775) 825-0602 ext. 134  
NV Lic. #3379A, D & CA Lic. #317448

[www.moananursery.com](http://www.moananursery.com)



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Creeping Oregon Grape is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens

### **Planting & Growing**

Creeping Oregon Grape will grow to be about 18 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 24 inches. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 20 years.

This shrub performs well in both full sun and full shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This species is native to parts of North America.

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