

HOUSEPLANTS 101

By: Cyndi's Garden Center



HOW TO CARE FOR YOUR HOUSEPLANTS

Caring for Plants:

Start with Soil. The soil you use should equal parts peat moss, perlite, and compost. We highly recommend Espoma organic potting mix. Soil is vital for potting plants and without the correct soil your plant will not be happy and healthy!



Watering your Plant. The golden rule of thumb is to always check the soil by placing a finger in it to check if it is moist or not. Another way is to lift the pot and gauge the overall weight. Light = needs water, heavy = no water is needed. If a plant is over watered, root rot will begin to happen due to the plant sitting in a puddle of water. Just know that a plant should be watered about once or twice a week and while watering check for drainage. In the winter your plants should only need watered a couple of times a month.



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Houseplants love to be misted! We highly suggest purchasing a small spray bottle and misting your plants once or twice a day since these plants are typically tropical and in a high humidity environment.



Lighting. Houseplants either need high light, medium light, or low light as well as direct or indirect light. High light plants need around 6 hours of light a day. Medium light plants require 4 - 6 hours of light per day. Low light plants require less than 3 hours per day. Some plants require direct sunlight from a south facing window or indirect sunlight from a light bulb or through a curtain.

Fertilizing. Fertilizing is essential for healthy plants. There are two types of fertilizing options; granule or water soluble. A granule fertilizer will break down slowly over time and need applied every couple of months. A water soluble fertilizer will need to be applied every couple of weeks.

Once fertilizing your plants it will be easy to notice a change! During growing season your plants will be happier and healthier overall and beautiful with blooms.

Environment. A plants environment is essential when it comes to the overall health of each plant. Typically houseplants need to be in a warm environment around 70 degrees Fahrenheit with good air circulation. The minimum temperature a houseplant needs to survive is 55 degrees Fahrenheit. To maximize airflow a ceiling fan or box fan would be great to circulate the air throughout your home.

Occasionally wipe down the leaves of your houseplants to prevent a buildup of dust and other particles. Also, if your plant is in a sunny spot getting direct light make sure to rotate every week or so in order to promote regular growth.

