

HELLO, WE ARE THE

Philodendrons

(Spokesplant: Phil E. Dendron)

PHILODENDRON SPECIES

Get to know me

We are members of the Araceae family. That's Araceae not Arecaceae, palms are weirdos! Jokes some of them are cool! Our family, Araceae, colloquially referred to as Aroids also includes common houseplant genera such as Anthuriums, Monstera, Epipremnum, Alocasia, Caladium, Spathiphyllum and 107 other genera. We all produce a Spadix, which a finger of tiny flowers, usually accompanied by a leaf-like bract called a Spathe. Most of our family is from the tropics but there are some who hail from more temperate regions as well.

Our lot, the Philodendrons are, for the most part pretty easy to care for, especially those of us commonly found in cultivation. Some of our more aloof counterparts may require a bit of extra research but you can apply what I am about to tell you to most Philodendrons, Monstera, Epipremnum, Spathiphyllum and some of the more common Anthuriums.

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What I like

POSITION



We need bright indirect light – what the hell does this mean well place us somewhere where we get bright ambient light hitting our foliage but not the sun's rays directly. Whilst it's normal for our older leaves to go yellow because we recycle the Nitrogen for our newer leaves, if lots of leaves are yellowing or our newer foliage is we're probably getting too much light. If we are growing a bit leggy then we're probably not getting enough light.

TEMPERATURE



As we are mostly from the tropics we like warmth and humidity. That said though we are a fairly adaptable group of plants and can generally handle cooler temperatures, not frost though.

WATER



Wait until the top 2-3 cm of soil in our pot has dried out then give us a good drink. You should allow more time between watering in the colder months as most of us are used to a dry season like you get in the tropics, also we won't be drying out as fast because it's colder, duh! Never let us sit in water we grow in trees not puddles!

FERTILIZER



A good pinch of slow release indoor plant fertilizer in spring is generally all we need. A bit of bone meal may be necessary every now and again as we crave (use lots of) calcium and magnesium – pale new leaves is a good sign that we need more of these micronutrients.

RE-POTTING



Most of us will literally start to climb out of our pot when it gets too small. We do benefit from repotting more regularly than other indoor plants and we will probably reward you with a flush of new growth if repot us in spring. We need a mix that is light and drains really well. Try this: 1 part peat moss or coir peat; 1 part orchid bark and 1 part perlite.

What I don't like

FROST &
SITTING IN WATER



We're generally a pretty cruisy group but we definitely don't like frost or sitting in water!



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