

HOUSEPLANT CARE Cheat sheet

Best Wishes for Beautiful and Healthy Plants! From Claire Akin houseplantresourcecenter.com



BENEFITS OF YOUR HOUSEPLANT

- Purifies air (removing toxins and releasing oxygen)
- Increases air humidity
- Decreases fatigue, colds, headaches, coughs, sore throats and flu-like symptoms (research by NASA)
- Keeps you company
- Looks great in your house!
- Brings good luck

FUN FACTS

- Your plants likely originated in tropical habitats, so they like a lot of light!
- Research shows that plants do better if you make a habit of talking to them. Strange but true!
- Houseplants depend on us for love to thrive

SUNLIGHT

Most houseplants thrive in bright, direct light. Very few thrive in direct afternoon sun, which can burn the foliage, but less than one hour may be okay. Bright light is preferred and some morning sun will help keep your plants looking good. Hold up a white piece of paper in the middle of the day and put your hand in front of it. Can you see a shadow? A faint shadow is good, a defined shadow is even better, no shadow is too dark.

WATER

Resist the urge to over water! Never let your plant sit in wet soil. Be sure that you have good drainage and that your soil dries out slightly between waterings.

SHOULD YOU WATER?

- Is the container heavy or light? It should feel lighter than normal.
- Is the top 1 inch of soil dry? Don't water until it is. Test with your finger.
- Does a wooden skewer show soil is dry halfway down? Wet soil smells differently.
- Are the leaves turning brown? This often means overwatering.
- Are the leaves dropping? This usually means a dry plant.
- Dusty plant? Put in shower and spray off every month to keep clean!

FEEDING

Use one teaspoon of Indoor Plant Food (on Amazon) diluted in two cups of water to feed your plant. Feed every time you water all year long for best results.

UNHAPPY PLANT?

The most common problems are not enough sun and overwatering. Try to rule those out and provide good drainage.