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***Howea forsteriana* - “Thatch” or “Kentia” Palm**

Kentia (*Howea forsteriana*) can be a somewhat slow-growing palm but are valued as houseplants not just for their elegance but also their ease of adaptability.

Light: Keep the palm out of direct sunlight, in an area with ambient natural light. It will grow best in bright light, but will survive in lower ambient light - these suggestions illustrate intense indirect light and consistent diffused light.

Water: While not drought tolerant, the Kentia palm should not be kept always wet. Allow the soil to dry by around 25-30% of the soil's volume before watering thoroughly again. Avoid any standing or allow air flow for any excess to evaporate.

Environment: Keep the palm away from hot or cold drafts. These can be planted in an all purpose potting mix and adding extra material like bark or perlite to the mix can provide more drainage capability and will help the plant to thrive. Avoid vents from heating or cooling, but overall these plants are adaptable to average home humidity levels.

Toxicity: Reported to be safe for cats and dogs.

Of Note:

- Prone to the pest spider mites. Check regularly for signs of tiny webbing on the foliage. If a pest issue is found, treat it with insecticidal soap.
*When planting in a pot without a drainage hole, avoid over watering by estimating 25% of the container's overall volume, with appropriate drainage materials incorporated when planting.