

## Aglaonema

- **Origin:** Subtropical forests of Southeast Asia.
- **Height:** 2-3 ft (60-90 cm).
- **Light:** Keep this plant in low light. Too much light may cause its leaves to fade.
- **Water:** Keep potting mix evenly moist. Don't allow it to get so dry that its leaves wilt. Water thoroughly, then empty the drainage tray.
- **Humidity:** Average indoor humidity levels. It will tolerate low humidity. Don't mist, which will cause spots on its leaves.
- **Temperature:** Normal room temperatures 65-75°F/18-24°C. This plant has no tolerance for the cold. It suffers when exposed to temperatures below 55°F/13°C. Cold air may cause grayish-yellow patches on its leaves. Put your plant in a spot where it won't be exposed to cold drafts from doorways or windows.
- **Soil:** Any good-quality potting mix. Small plants can be grown in water.
- **Fertilizer:** From spring through summer, feed monthly with a balanced fertilizer diluted by half.

## Anthurium

- **Origin:** Columbia.
- **Height:** Up to 18 in (45 cm); compact cultivars reach only 12 in (30 cm). Tall flower stems may need staking.
- **Light:** At least 4 hours of bright light each day. No direct sun.
- **Water:** Keep soil evenly moist spring through fall, slightly drier in winter. Yellow leaves are often caused by overwatering. Water thoroughly, but don't allow soil to get soggy.
- **Humidity:** Try to maintain 50% relative humidity or higher. Here are some easy ways to increase humidity for your tropical houseplants.
- **Temperature:** 65-70°F/18-21°C at night, 75-80°F/24-27°C during the day.
- **Soil:** Peat moss based potting mix.
- **Fertilizer:** Feed every 2 weeks in spring and summer with a high-phosphorus liquid fertilizer diluted by half.

## Chamaedorea

- **Origin:** Southern Mexico.
- **Height:** Up to 6 ft (1.8 m) indoors.
- **Light:** Bright light.
- **Water:** Keep soil moist all year long. Put it in a pot with drainage holes to prevent soggy soil. Palms don't like their feet wet.
- **Humidity:** Moderate humidity. If the relative humidity drops below 50%, use a humidity tray or room humidifier. Cat palm also loves to be misted.
- **Temperature:** Average room temperature 60-75°F/16-24°C year-round.
- **Soil:** Use a peaty mix that drains well. Mix 1 part sand to 3 parts African violet mix.

- **Fertilizer:** Feed once in spring and again in summer with a time-release fertilizer. It contains the micronutrients that palms need to keep them lush and green.

### Dipladenia

- **Origin:** South and Central America
- **Temperature:** This plant requires warm temperatures for best performance. Nighttime temperatures should remain around 65 to 70°F/18-21°C.
- **Water:** Water the plant frequently in the summer but let the top few inches of the soil dry out before watering anew. The plant can go in the ground in warmer areas or stay in a pot.
- **Light:** Bright but indirect sun is a requirement for growing a dipladenia plant. The best flowers are formed in a well-lit area. Pinch of gangly growth when the plant is young to force thicker stronger branches.
- **Fertilize:** every three to four weeks during the growing season with a liquid plant food as part of good dipladenia care. During winter, keep indoors or in a greenhouse and suspend fertilizing.

### Mandevilla

- **Origin:** Brazil.
- **Height:** 10 ft (3 m) or more if not pruned back.
- **Light:** Bright light with some direct sunlight. Plants that don't get enough light will grow tall and leggy, with few blooms.
- **Water:** Water thoroughly and allow the top inch of soil to dry out between waterings. Put it in a pot with drainage holes to prevent soggy soil.
- **Humidity:** Moderate. If relative humidity falls below 50%, mist the foliage and place the pot on a tray of wet pebbles.
- **Temperature:** Average to warm 65-85°F/18-29°C.
- **Soil:** Use a fast-draining potting mix. You can use an all-purpose mix and add a little perlite.
- **Fertilizer:** Feed every 2 weeks with a high-potassium fertilizer while plant is growing and flowering.

### Ravenea

- **Origin:** Africa.
- **Light:** A Majesty Palm needs very bright indirect light at all times.
- **Water:** The soil of a Majesty Palm should be consistently moist but not soggy. Brown tips on a Majesty Palm means the plant needs more water and yellow tips mean the plant has been over-watered.

- **Fertilizer:** Majesty Palm requires a great deal of fertilizer. Feed a Majesty Palm every two weeks when the plant is actively growing with a balanced houseplant food at 1/2 the recommended strength.
- **Temperature:** Majesty Palms do well in temperatures between 45-85 degrees. Try to keep this Palm away from cold drafts or heating vents.
- **Humidity:** Majesty Palms do best in high humidity but can grow well in basic household humidity.
- **Soil:** Use a rich soil that drains well for a Majesty Palm. If using a basic houseplant mix for a Majesty Palm, try adding some sand.
- **Pruning:** Fertilize a palm plant about 7-10 days before you plan to prune the plant. This encourages new growth at the pruning site. Always use very sharp scissors or cutting shears when pruning any houseplant. Quickly prune any yellow fronds that appear on your Majesty Palm as well as any leaves that show signs of fungal or bacterial infection at the base of the frond stem. Prune fronds at the bottom of a Palm Plant to encourage growth at the top of the plant.

### Rhapis Excelsa

- **Origin:** Southeast China.
- **Height:** Up to 10 ft (3 m) outdoors. It stays smaller when grown in a container. In fact, it can be grown as a bonsai plant, reaching only 12 in (30 cm) high.
- **Light:** Bright, indirect light. Too much sun will cause the leaves to turn yellow-green.
- **Water:** Keep soil evenly moist in spring and summer. In winter, allow the top 1 in (2.5 cm) to dry out between waterings. Like other palms, it is sensitive to fluoride and other chemicals in tap water, causing leaf tips to turn brown.
- **Humidity:** Moderate to high humidity. Brown leaf tips may indicate that humidity is low. Mist foliage and stand the pot on a tray of wet pebbles.
- **Temperature:** Average room temperatures 60-75°F/16-24°C.
- **Soil:** Peat moss based potting mix.
- **Fertilizer:** Feed monthly in summer with a balanced liquid fertilizer diluted by half, or a light sprinkling of time-released house plant fertilizer.

### Schefflera Actinophylla

- **Origin:** Australia and Pacific Islands.
- **Height:** Up to 6 ft (1.8 m). Tall Schefflera actinophylla plants will need support. Mature plants have aerial roots that can be trained to cling to a moss stick.
- **Light:** Bright light, no direct sun. Turn plant occasionally in front of the window to encourage even growth.
- **Water:** Water thoroughly to get all the roots wet. Allow the top inch of soil to dry out between waterings. Yellow leaves are a sign of overwatering. Drooping leaves usually indicate that the soil is too dry.

- **Humidity:** Average indoor humidity (about 40-50% relative humidity). If your home gets too dry in the winter, use a room humidifier or mist with water.
- **Temperature:** Average to warm room temperatures 65-75°F/18-24°C; schefflera will tolerate a minimum of 45°F/7°C.
- **Soil:** Peat moss-based potting mix.
- **Fertilizer:** Feed monthly with a balanced liquid fertilizer diluted by half.

### Spathiphyllum

- **Origin:** South America.
- **Height:** Up to 3 ft (90 cm).
- **Light:** Bright light, but no direct sun. Will tolerate low light but may not bloom. Brown scorch marks on leaves are a sign of too much sunlight.
- **Water:** Keep soil evenly moist. Use a pot with a drainage hole to prevent soggy soil, which can cause root rot.
- **Humidity:** Relative humidity of 40% or higher. Shriveled, dry leaves are likely caused by dry air. Indoor humidity can drop drastically in winter and may need a boost. Take a look at these easy ways to increase humidity for your houseplants.
- **Temperature:** Average room temperatures (65-75°F/18-24°C).
- **Soil:** Peat moss-based potting mix.
- **Fertilizer:** Feed monthly in spring and summer with a balanced houseplant fertilizer that includes micronutrients, using half the recommended strength. Yellow edges on leaves are an indication of nutrient deficiency.

