



Watering

Over watering is a common problem, causing leaf yellowing ~ a root rot. Plants use water at varying rates. Water only when needed. Weight and touch are your clues. Get used to the feel of the pot when dry and wet. This will give you a good sense of the plants needs. Always use room temp water. Water the soil, never the leaves.

Temperature

Avoid drafts, both hot and cold, as well as excessive warm spots, such as near a TV. Never leave a plant on a window sill as the weather turns cold.

Humidity

Low house humidity is common in winter.

Humidifiers help make your environment more comfortable for plants and people. Another way to raise humidity, is to set plants on trays of gravel that have been flooded with water.

As the water evaporates, the humidity rises around the plants. Misting does not help. It can in fact, do more harm than good by facilitating the spread of foliar diseases.



The Floral Trunk

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Helpful Hints about....

Foliage Plants

From



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Foliage plants are both beautiful and useful, enhancing the interior decor and cleaning the air or pollutants.

The psychological benefits of keeping foliage plants is well documented, creating a calm and relaxing environment and often fulfilling a need for caring and/or collecting individual foliage plants.



Everyone kills plants, even the most experienced and educated horticulturist.

Fertilizer

Fertilizer residues from a greenhouse, will be sufficient for the first month. You may then fertilize with a house plant fertilizer according to label directions. Avoid fertilization as winter approaches. Plants "slow down" during the reduced light of winter and require less water and fertilizer.

Don't over fertilize.

Too much can damage plants.



Selection:

Start with a healthy plant, avoiding plants with abnormally yellow foliage. Check the undersides of the leaves for signs of pests and disease. Too low light may cause a plant's decline and too high light may sunburn the leaves. Consider your light location and select your plants accordingly.

Plant Definitions

Low Light Plants

Prefer lower light levels consistent with a north or shaded window. There should be enough light to read comfortably.

Medium Light Plants

Prefer light levels within 5 to 10 feet of a bright sunny window, or in an east facing window. Your hand should cast a fuzzy but definite shadow.

High Light Plants

Prefer light levels consistent with a south or west facing window. Your hand should cast a defined shadow. On cloudless summer days, one can draw a sheer curtain between the plants and the window to prevent sunburn.