



Indoor plant

CARE GUIDE

A guide to choosing and caring for your indoor plants.

Town & Country Gardens 1311 High Street, Malvern, VIC, 3144 ph: 9822 3305 www.townandcountrygardens.com.au

FOOD

You will get maximum growth from your plants if you feed them regularly to replace the nutrients they uses to grow, especially during spring and summer when they experience rapid growth. There are many fertilisers, the trick is to get the right one for your plant. We recommend a combination of fast and slow release fertilisers to cover all your plant needs



LIQUID FERTILISER

These fertilisers are mixed with water and fed onto your plants with a watering can directly to the soil, or applied in a spray onto the leaves. Liquid fertilisers are taken up quite readily by the plant, and help to promote strong growth while the plant is actively growing. Depending on which product you use, this should be done regularly. Our team like a general liquid fertiliser like Powerfeed, which is made from natural, organic ingredients and is gentle on plants

SLOW RELEASE FERTULSER

These fertilisers need only be applied roughly once a year (depending on the product you choose). They slowly release nutrients into the soil and provide a steady supply of food to your plants. Osmocote for pots and planters is a good one to use.



A word of caution here. It's very important to follow all instructions when feeding your plants. Plants can be damaged by too much fertiliser.



WATER

Understanding your plants water requirements is really important. All plants need water but what is also important is that they are able to drain. Most plants do not like their roots in water and this can cause disease.

SIGNS OF WATERING PROBLEMS

Overwatering:

- * Soil is very wet
- * Brown tips and/or yellowing patches on leaves
- * Drooping leaves or leaf drop
- * Brown edges on leaves

Underwatering:

- * Soil is very dry. If you have been watering, then the soil may be hydrophobic. Wetting agent can help get the mix rehydrated
- * Drooping leaves or leaf drop
- * Yellowing or brown leaves
- * Brown edges on leaves

HOW MUCH WATER?

The most common question we get asked! While there's no hard and fast rule, here's some general advice:

- * A once a week plant watering routine will ensure you don't forget to water.
- * Use your judgement if the plant feels wet, leave it for a few more days. Test with your finger. It may be dry on top but moist under the surface.
- * Give your plant a decent water. Take your plants outside or put them in the bath or sink. Fill the pot up to the lip and watch it as the water drains through. You may need to repeat this step. Let your plants drain freely then put them back in their place.

PLANTS WITH LOW WATER NEEDS

Some plants can survive less frequent watering. If you are likely to forget (there's no shame in it!) why not try one of these:

Zanzibar Gem Peace Lily Devils Ivy Succulents like Aloes and Haworthias Rhipsalis Cactus Chain of Hearts



LIGHT

Plants need light for photosynthesis. When buying an indoor plant, one of the first things you should consider is the amount of light it will get.

Most plants are very happy in a brightly lit room (but not direct sunlight) but some plants can cope with less. If your room is on the dark side, then you need to choose something that doesn't mind low light.

THESE GUYS AREN'T SCARED OF THE DARK!

Devils Ivy Zanzibar Gem Heart Leaf Philodendron Aloe Vera Parlour Palm Ribbon Plant Peace Lily

Cast Iron Plant

IS YOUR PLANT GETTING THE RIGHT AMOUNT OF LIGHT?

Not enough:

- * Leaves lighter than usual
- * Leggy, stretched growth
- * Plant growing on an angle

Too much:

- * Yellow leaves (on new growth)
- * Brown patches on leaves (sunburn!)

A WORD ABOUT TEMPERATURE

Most indoor plants come from tropical climates and will comfortably tolerate temperatures between 15 and 30 degrees celcius.

In winter, avoid placing plants too close to glass windows, or too close to heating units.

Still need help?

We offer an in-home indoor plant styling service. Our team include horticulturalists and visual merchandisers who work together on a plan. We'll choose plants that are right for your home and help you create your own indoor oasis.



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