

# Houseplant Pointers



## LIGHT

Position your houseplant for optimal lighting. Most plants benefit from some natural light.

- **Low:** florescent and incandescent lights. Snake Plants and Peace Lilies do well with low light.
- **Medium:** some natural light from a maximum of five to six feet from a window. Dracaena, Rhaps Palm and Pothos grow well with medium light.
- **Bright, Indirect:** a well-lit room, within four feet of a window. Ficus, Fishtail Palm, Schefflera and Aralia all require bright, indirect light.

## OTHER TIPS

- **Fertilize:** Most plants benefit from fertilizer at least once a month. A balanced fertilizer such as Bonide® 10-10-10 Houseplant Fertilizer works well. African Violets, Orchids, and Succulents require specially formulated fertilizers.
- **Rinse:** take plants outside to rinse foliage and to flush the soil at least once a month. Rinsing the foliage removes dust and deters pests, and, flushing the soil with running water for several minutes washes away salts that may accumulate from fertilizing. Bonide® Leaf Shine is another helpful product to remove dust from glossy-leaved plants so they can absorb the maximum amount of light.



Many plants like morning sunshine, but most are not happy in direct light (placed in a window without coverings).

The reflection of the sun on the glass will burn most indoor plants. One exception is the Ponytail Palm (pictured left).



*Better Plants. Better Service. Better Prices.*

Elk Grove  
9220 E. Stockton Blvd.  
916.714.5600

Folsom  
205 Serpa Way  
916.358.9099

Rocklin  
5436 Crossings Dr.  
916.824.1310

Roseville  
901 Galleria Blvd.  
916.782.2273

Sacramento  
8501 Jackson Rd.  
916.381.1625





# Houseplant Pointers

Houseplants can be a little intimidating, although, they're actually pretty easy-going and require little care. We've got you covered with a few simple tips for successful growing.

## WATER

Most houseplants need a thorough watering once a week with room temperature water. Water until it drains out the bottom of the pot. If watered in place, dump standing water from the drip tray. High levels of chlorine in tap water may adversely affect some houseplants.

Plant type, pot size and temperature determine the amount of water needed. Moisture meters are helpful to identify watering needs.

- **Plant Type:** Know what plant you are buying so you know what the specific water requirements are for that plant.
- **Pot Size:** The smaller the pot, the faster the soil dries out.
- **Temperature:** The warmer the temperature, the faster the moisture evaporates. In winter, generally plants need less frequent watering, unless they're exposed to warm drafts from a heater.
- **Humidity:** Because many indoor plants originate from tropical regions, providing humidity is beneficial. Use a spray bottle to mist them with water, or set them on a tray of lightly moist pebbles to help increase humidity.

## WATER NEEDS: LOW, MODERATE & HIGH

- **Low:** Some plants don't require much water, and prefer the soil to dry between waterings. For low water-use plants, allow the top two inches of soil to dry out before watering again. Some examples are succulents like Sansevieria (Snake Plant), Aloe, and Jade, as well as ZZ Plants and Ponytail Palms.
- **Moderate:** The majority of indoor plants are considered to be moderate. They prefer the top one-and-a-half inches of soil to be dry before watering. Anthuriums thrive on moderate water.
- **High:** Plants in this category prefer to have their soil stay moist, but not wet. Spathiphyllum (Peace Lilies), and Ferns like wet (not soggy) roots.

## REPOT OR NOT?

Most houseplants don't need to be transferred to a larger pot right away. They actually prefer to stay somewhat "cozy" in their pots. Setting the nursery pot inside a decorative container also makes it easier for transporting the plant to the sink or outside for rinsing off when necessary.

When re-potting, most houseplants perform better with a gradual pot size increase of no more than two inches larger in diameter and depth. A good way to determine if your plant needs to be re-potted, is to stick your finger in the soil- if the roots are so dense on the outer edge of the pot that it's difficult to probe the soil, your plant likely needs a larger container. Use quality potting soil such as E.B. Stone™ Organics Potting Soil for houseplants.

African Violets, Orchids and Bonsai prefer their own plant-specific soil. Succulents, Dracaenas and Ficus like well-draining soil such as E.B. Stone™ Cactus Mix.



*Better Plants. Better Service. Better Prices.*

Elk Grove  
9220 E. Stockton Blvd.  
916.714.5600

Folsom  
205 Serpa Way  
916.358.9099

Rocklin  
5436 Crossings Dr.  
916.824.1310

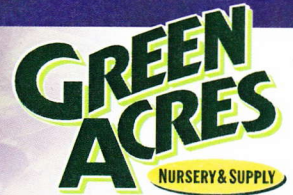
Roseville  
901 Galleria Blvd.  
916.782.2273

Sacramento  
8501 Jackson Rd.  
916.381.1625





# Houseplant Help List



iDigGreenAcres.com

VARIETY	WATER	LIGHT	HUMIDITY
Aglaonema/ Chinese Evergreen	1 drop	2 light bulbs	+
African Violet	2 drops	3 light bulbs	
Alocasia	2 drops	3 light bulbs	
Anthurium	2 drops	3 light bulbs	+
Aralia	1 drop	3 light bulbs	+
Begonia	2 drops	2 light bulbs	
Calathea	3 drops	3 light bulbs	+
Croton	2 drops	3 light bulbs	+
Christmas Cactus	1 drop	2 light bulbs	
Ctenanthe	2 drops	2 light bulbs	
Dracaena	1 drop	2 light bulbs	+
Dumb Cane/ Dieffenbachia	1 drop	2 light bulbs	+
Fern, Boston	2 drops	2 light bulbs	+
Fern, Maidenhair	2 drops	3 light bulbs	
Ficus	2 drops	3 light bulbs	+
English Ivy	2 drops	2 light bulbs	
Goldfish Plant	1 drop	2 light bulbs	+
Money Tree/ Pachyra	2 drops	2 light bulbs	
Natal Mahogany	3 drops	2 light bulbs	
Peace Lily	3 drops	2 light bulbs	+
Philodendron	2 drops	2 light bulbs	+
Prayer Plant	3 drops	2 light bulbs	+
Pothos	2 drops	1 light bulb	+
Schefflera	1 drop	2 light bulbs	
Snake Plant/ Sanseveria	1 drop	1 light bulb	
Spider Plant	2 drops	2 light bulbs	
Zz Plant	1 drop	1 light bulb	
<b>Palm</b>			
Areca Palm	3 drops	3 light bulbs	+
Fishtail	3 drops	3 light bulbs	+
Kentia	2 drops	2 light bulbs	+
Lady Palm	3 drops	2 light bulbs	+
Majesty	2 drops	1 light bulb	+
Neanthebella	2 drops	2 light bulbs	
Chamaedorea/ Bamboo Palm	2 drops	2 light bulbs	+

### Low Water - 1 drop

Allow the top two inches of soil to dry out between waterings.

### Medium Water - 2 drops

Allow the top one-and-a-half inches of soil to dry out in between waterings.

### High Water - 3 drops

Keep the soil evenly moist, but not wet.

### Low Light - 2 light bulbs

Will tolerate six to eight feet away from a window, or only exposed to artificial lighting. Low light plants can take medium-bright light as well.

### Medium Light - 3 light bulbs

Situated five to six feet from a window, still receives some natural light.

### Bright, Indirect Light - 3 light bulbs

A well-lit room within four feet of a window, but not directly exposed to sun.

Better Plants. Better Service. Better Prices.

Elk Grove  
9220 E. Stockton Blvd.  
916.714.5600

Folsom  
205 Serpa Way  
916.358.9099

Rocklin  
5436 Crossings Dr.  
916.824.1310

Roseville  
901 Galleria Blvd.  
916.782.2273

Sacramento  
8501 Jackson Rd.  
916.381.1625

