

HOUSEPLANTS DEPARTMENT



# BEST PLANTS FOR BEGINNERS

Plant	Light Requirements	Features
<b>Cast Iron Plant</b> <i>Aspidistra elatior</i>	Low	Cold tolerant.
<b>Chinese Evergreen</b> <i>Aglaonema</i>	Low	Tolerates dry air.
<b>Dracaena</b> <i>Dracaena</i>	Low	Many varieties to choose from.
<b>Kentia Palm</b> <i>Howea forsteriana</i>	Low	Unlike most palms this one tolerates dry, heated air.
<b>Philodendron</b> <i>Philodendron</i>	Low	The vining habit works in hanging baskets as well as containers.
<b>Snake Plant</b> <i>Sansevieria</i>	Low	Insect resistant.
<b>African Violet</b> <i>Saintpaulia</i>	Medium/Indirect	Great combination of foliage and almost constant blooms.  Likes humidity.
<b>Dumb Cane</b> <i>Dieffenbachia</i>	Medium/Indirect	Several varieties to choose from.
<b>Ficus</b> <i>Ficus</i>	Medium/Indirect	Seldom needs repotting.  Many varieties of shapes and sizes.
<b>Fishtail Palm</b> <i>Caryota mitis</i>	Medium/Indirect	Tolerates lower light better than most palms.
<b>Lady Palm</b> <i>Rhapis excelsa</i>	Medium/Indirect	Can tolerate cooler indoor temperatures.
<b>Peperomia</b> <i>Peperomia</i>	Medium/Indirect	Semi-succulent leaves.  Can tolerate lack of water.
<b>Pothos</b> <i>Epipremnum aureum</i>	Medium/Indirect	Vining habit.  Tolerates irregular watering.

<b>Rubber Plant</b> <i>Ficus elastica</i>	Medium/Indirect	Seldom needs repotting.  Variety of forms.
<b>Schefflera</b> <i>Brassaia</i>	Medium/Indirect	Glossy leaves.  Likes high humidity.
<b>Spider Plant</b> <i>Chlorophytum comosum</i>	Medium/Indirect	Good hanging basket plant.  Produces stems that in turn can be potted to produce new plants.
<b>Aloe</b> <i>Aloe barbadensis</i>	Bright/Direct	Fleshy succulent leaves have a nice texture.
<b>Cactus</b> <i>(Various)</i>	Bright/Direct	The epitome of easy care.  Don't let any preconceived notions limit you. There are countless attractive variations of this sturdy plant.
<b>Croton</b> <i>Codiaeum</i>	Bright/Direct	Variety of foliage colors available.
<b>Ponytail Palm</b> <i>Beaucarnea recurvata</i>	Bright/Direct	Slow-grower.  Bulb base stores water.

No matter how large or small your living space is, you can try one of the above listed plants. The plants are grouped by light requirements:

**Low light** — Prefer or can tolerate minimum light. North-facing windows are a good place for one of these. The interior locations of the house (coffee or end tables for example) offer a good environment as well.

**Medium/Indirect Light** — Bright light but no direct sun is the rule for these. West- or south-facing windows are great — just keep them a foot or two from the window itself.

**Bright/Direct** — Here are the sun worshippers. Put them on the windowsill facing south or west.