



Cedar Rim  
Nursery

ESTABLISHED 1978



**FICUS LYRATA**

# HOUSEPLANTS

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# Ten Golden Rules for Houseplants

1. You have to love your plants! Only buy plants that you really like.
2. Water as needed. Each houseplant has specific watering needs- make sure to learn these.
3. Light is generally better than shade. Most plants appreciate a bright window, however only certain plants can tolerate searing sun or a dark corner.
4. Allow your houseplants a resting period in the winter. Many of our green houseguests need a bright but cool location in the colder months.
5. Don't forget to fertilize. Houseplants need fresh fertilizer every 2-4 weeks in both the spring and summer.
6. Houseplants like fresh soil. Repot young plants once a year, and older ones every 2-3 years.
7. Give them some space. The leaves of adjacent plants should not touch one another.
8. Remove excess water. Pour off any water not absorbed and left standing in the plant saucer after two or three hours.
9. Avoid drafts. Keep doors closed when airing out plants.
10. Mist large leaved plants. Houseplants with large leaves like it warm and moist.

**Remember...** *Basic plant care involves choosing the correct plant for your specific location. Before you purchase a houseplant, make sure you have an appropriate place for it in your home.*

## Watering

### When, how and how often?

Unfortunately there is not one schedule for watering all houseplants. The amount of water required is dependant on the type of plant, size of pot, its location, and its phase of growth.

### When should a plant be watered?

Morning is generally the best time to water, especially in bright or locations.

### How should a plant be watered?

It is best to water houseplants either directly on the root ball, making sure to avoid the foliage and flowers or into the saucer under the plant.

If your houseplant is extremely dry, you can use the immersion method, which involves placing the pot up to its upper rim in a large bucket of water until air bubbles have stopped rising to the top.

If your houseplant requires a humid environment you should mist the foliage 1-2 times per day with lime-free water at room temperature.

## General Tips for people who water too much?

1. Always use the thumb test- then water depending on results
2. Water into the plants saucer instead of directly on the root ball
3. Place gravel in the plant saucer
4. Select plants that require more water

## General Tips for people who water too little?

1. Use clay pots rather than plastic as they help to retain the moisture.
2. Place plants in an immersion bath from time to time.
3. Choose plants that don't require a lot of water.

## Fertilizing

Plants have a habit of letting you know when they require fertilizer. The leaves may change color, growth may slow down, they may lose leaves and cease to bloom. When you notice this occurring in spring and summer, it is time to fertilize.

Your various houseplants will also require different fertilizers. For example, a greenery plant will require different fertilizer than a blooming houseplant. Make sure you keep this in mind when selecting food for your tropicals.

Fertilizer comes in many forms including liquid, powders, granular, stakes and sticks. As each form differs in its strength, make sure to follow the manufacturers instructions.

## Feeding tips

1. Fertilize regularly throughout your houseplants growing season
2. Remember fast growing plants need more fertilizer
3. Most plants require a rest phase through the colder months so make sure to not fertilize.

## Sunny Location

### What is a sunny location?

- Window that faces south, or southwest.
- A room that the sun shines directly into for several hours each day.
- Remember... Plants exposed to more sunlight and bright light tend to dry out faster and need to be watered more frequently

# Houseplants for a Sunny Location

|                      |
|----------------------|
| Agave                |
| Aloe                 |
| Bananas              |
| Bird of Paradise     |
| Bougainvillea        |
| Bromeliad            |
| Coconut Palm         |
| Hibiscus 'Cordylone' |

|                        |
|------------------------|
| Kalanchoe              |
| Mandevilla             |
| Mediterranean Fan Palm |
| Oleander               |
| Ponytail Palm          |
| Sensitive Plant        |
| Succulents             |
| Yucca                  |

## What is a bright location?

- A window that faces east or west
- A location without direct mid-day sun
- In rooms where the sun shines for several hours
- 3-5' from a large window that faces south or southwest
- In a bright room with light walls, light floors, and large windows

**Remember...** Plants exposed to more sunlight and bright light tend to dry out faster and need to be watered more frequently

|                |
|----------------|
| African Violet |
| Alocasia       |
| Asparagus Fern |
| Boston Fern    |
| Coffee Plant   |
| Cordylone      |
| Croton         |
| Cyclamen       |
| Dracaena       |

|                 |
|-----------------|
| False Aralia    |
| Fiddle Leaf Fig |
| Hibiscus        |
| Hoya            |
| Jade            |
| Jasmin          |
| Lipstick Plant  |
| Myrtle          |
| Norfolk Pine    |

|                             |
|-----------------------------|
| Pineapple                   |
| Sago Palm                   |
| Stephanotis                 |
| Tilandsia                   |
| Umbrella Plant (Schefflera) |
| Weeping Fig                 |
| Zebra Plant                 |

