

Here at Oderings, we provide one of the most extensive selections of house plants in New Zealand, and we grow at least 50 percent of that range. Let's begin! This Houseplant Care Gardening Guide is a general guide to get you started on your houseplant journey.

Placement

Before you shop, consider these essential factors. Most houseplants won't thrive in a home if it drops to temperatures of 16°C or lower. Heat pumps can kill houseplants because even though they provide warmth, they also suck the moisture from the air and many houseplants also dislike inconsistent temperatures and draughts. So finding the right spot is essential. We can help you select the right plant for your environment.

Watering

Houseplants can easily be killed with kindness, so only water when your plants need it. Figure out a watering schedule that suits your unique home and plant requirements, and this will likely need adjusting depending on the season. Generally, you should allow the soil to dry out slightly between watering and never keep your plant soaking wet. You can tell if the soil is dry by the weight test (picking your plant up out of its cover pot). If it is heavy, don't water; if light, then you can water. Water underneath the leaves, directly onto the soil to prevent burning of leaves and to stop diseases from forming. Avoid watering into the middle or crown of the plant as this may cause rotting. Ensure your pot has drainage so the plant doesn't become waterlogged. Ideally, the water should be slightly warm or at room temperature. For most plants, water until some runs through the pot's base before transferring back into the cover pot. Watering in the morning around 10am is best as watering late at night may cause a chill and yellow leaves. If sunny, never take your houseplants outside to water as the water on the leaves strengthens the sun's intensity and can cause burning.



Plant Options

Bright direct light

Cacti
Succulents
Sansevieria
Chain of Fishhooks
String of Dolphins

Bright indirect light

String of Pearls
Hoyas
Devil's Ivy
ZZ Plants
Peace Lily
Palms
Light leaved Calatheas
Peperomia
Pothos
Ficus

Medium light

Ferns
Philodendron Cordatum
Bridal Veil
Ficus
Peace Lily
Palms
Dark leaved Calathea
Peperomia
Ficus

Low light

Zebrena
Peperomias
ZZ Plants
Ferns
Peace Lily

Feeding

Feeding can be done in the growing season. In New Zealand, this is from mid-September to mid-March. We recommend liquid fertiliser as it is quicker acting or use a Thrive Plant Food Spike for hassle-free feeding. Depending on the fertiliser, this should be used once a fortnight to once a month in the growing season. Large grade plants 1m+ can be fed with liquid food in conjunction with a six-month granular feed. Oderings Total Replenish can be applied near the rim of the pot, never at the stem. Three weeks after you have repotted with Oderings Houseplant Potting Mix, apply a liquid fertiliser like Gro-Sure Pump'n'Feed. There is no need to feed your plant in winter as there is no rapid growth, and the plant won't use it. If you want to provide a gentle boost, use a seaweed tonic; this helps add minerals into the soil and strengthen your plants. You can also mist your plants with Gro-Sure Mist'n'Feed.

Cleaning

Maintenance is important. Once every 3-6 months, cut back any yellow, old or damaged leaves. Re-stake plants if required, remove weeds or mosses and top-dress slightly with extra soil if the level has become lower. Remove old flowers. Large-leaved plants may also need dusting. Do so by using a damp microfibre cloth to remove any dust build-up, and this will allow more light onto the leaves, allowing better photosynthesis.

Lighting

Because the light levels in homes are shorter and dimmer in winter, it is best to relocate some of our cold-sensitive plants, such as calatheas, alocasias and fittonias, to brighter locations. In summer, some plants may need relocating due to the intense sun and heat, and this will prevent sunburn, fading and arching plants reaching towards the light in summer. Try to avoid constantly moving your plants as this causes shock and stress to the plant.



Indoor Plants: Read & Feed



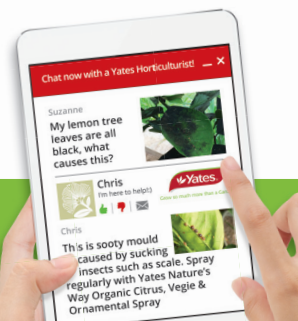
Yates® Top 50 Indoor Plants covers plants for almost everywhere, from humid bathrooms to dark bedrooms. Plus tips on watering, feeding and potting up.

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