

Basic Care Plan For All Indoor Plants

For starters...

Plants for indoors are those that grow naturally in environments with limited or controlled light and minimal season change. Usually they come from tropical forests.

Knowing where a plant naturally grows can help us place them in the best conditions to thrive.

- AC/Heater vents are not good for plants. Fresh air & humidity are good for your plants. Placing plants indoors on a tray of rock & water can help create more humid environment, just be sure to change the water to reduce algae buildup. Placing plants outdoors in **mild seasons in protected areas** gives them a chance for fresh air. Be sure not to place in full hot sun or they will burn.
- Plants need light & water & food. How much and when depends on the plant variety & their environment.
- Watering- get a moisture meter to help decide when you need to water. Using tap water is okay but rainwater, distilled water or filtered water are really good for your plants. Catch the drip from your AC in summer.
- Light is key! Natural light thru windows & skylights are a cost-free way to provide your plants the light they need. **Full** sunlight thru glass can be too strong and may burn leaves. Offset plants or use blinds to create indirect light. Using florescent bulbs or grow lights are fine for most indoor plants; remember to keep lights on for at least 8 hours a day.
- Feed your plants once a month. Plants can get some food when growing outdoors in their natural environment, indoors they need us to provide it. Organic foods like **Hasta Gro & worm castings** are excellent ways to feed your plant and their soil-root system. Time release foods like **Osmocote and Bayer plant spikes** are chemical based but will feed your plants over a longer period of time.
- Because there's no real season indoors, you can trim & clean your plants anytime. It's common for older leaves to die as new leaves emerge. And do not worry if you see a blemish or 2 on occasion.

