

What Do Houseplants Need?

(Selecting Houseplants for Your Home's Lighting Conditions)

How do you figure out what light intensity you have in an area? Your hand can measure light intensity reasonably well in your home. Pass it over the plant and in front of the light source. If you see a sharp, clear shadow the light is high in intensity. A softer, more diffused shadow means medium light, while a faint shadow shows low light.

If you've ever felt that plants are as demanding as people, you're at least partly correct. Individual plants do have particular needs, and they simply won't do anything for you unless those basic needs are satisfied. Often, it's easier to match a houseplant's requirements to your existing indoor conditions than it is to change your indoor conditions to suit a new plant. Here are some ideas. (These plants are often available at New Garden Gazebo, but we can't promise we'll have every variety all the time.

Low light Intensity, very moist soil

Maidenhair Fern

Birdsnest Fern

Low light intensity, moderately moist soil

Spathiphyllum - Peace lily

Chinese Evergreen

Neanthe Bella Palm

Purple Waffle Plant

Medium light Intensity, very moist soil

Fishtail Palm

European Fan Palm

Butterfly or Areca Plant

Hawaiian Ti Plant

Medium light Intensity, moderately moist soil

Corn Plant

Caladium

Staghorn Fern

Norfolk Island Pine

Spider Plant

Zebra Plant

Asparagus Fern

Grape Ivy

Weeping Fig

Plumosa Fern

Warneckii Dracaena

Rubber Plant

Iron Cross Begonia

Golden Pothos

Fiddleleaf Fig

Rex Begonia

Aluminum Plant

Creeping Pig

Bromeliads

Artillery Plant

Fittonia



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What Do Houseplants Need? cont.

Medium light intensity, moderately moist soil, continued

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| Prayer Plant | Florida Ruffles Fern | Arrowhead (syngonium) |
| Split-Leaf Philodendron | Philodendron | Piggyback Plant |
| Boston Fern | Swedish Ivy | Wandering Jew |

Medium light intensity, moderately dry soil

Giant Dumbcane
Peperomia
Snakeplant
Tahitian Bridal Veil

High light intensity, moderately moist soil

Croton
Coleus
Velvet Plant
English Ivy

High light intensity, moderately dry soil

Aloe
Shrimp Plant
Schefflera, Umbrella Plant
Cactus
Jade Plant
Crown of Thorns
Wax Plant
Strawberry Begonia
Burro Tail

