

Houseplant Lighting Guide

(Houseplants, Douglas Spencer, October 16, 2012)

Low Light Low- over 5 feet from a window.	Moderate Light Moderate - 5 - 8 feet from any window that receives some sun.	Moderate to Bright Light Moderate to Bright - 3 - 5 feet from an E or W facing window	Bright Light Bright Light - 2 - 3 feet of a S facing window.
<u>Cast Iron Plants</u> <u>Chinese Evergreens</u> <u>Corn Plants</u> Homalomena Pothos <u>Prayer Plants</u> <u>Rubber Plants</u> <u>Shamrock Plants</u>	Calathea <u>Dieffenbachia (Dumb Cane)</u> Dracaena Varieties Ficus <u>Fiddle Leaf Fig Plants</u> <u>Heart Leaf Philodendrons</u> <u>Kentia / Sentry Palms</u> <u>Lady Palms</u> <u>Madagascar Dragon Tree</u> <u>Polka Dot Plants</u> <u>Spider Plants</u> <u>Split Leafed Philodendrons</u> Swedish Ivy <u>Majesty Palms</u> Philodendrons Pilea Snow Bush <u>Warneckeii</u> <u>White Cloud Ficus</u>	<u>African Violets</u> <u>Anthuriums</u> <u>Areca Palms</u> <u>Arrowhead Vine</u> <u>Boston Fern</u> <u>Bromeliad</u> Cactus <u>Chinese Fan Palms</u> <u>Christmas Cactus</u> Fishtail Palms Janet Craig <u>Lipstick Plants</u> <u>Maidenhair Ferns</u> Neanthe Bella Palms <u>Norfolk Island Pines</u> <u>Orchids</u> <u>Peace Lily (Closet Plant)</u> <u>Persian Violets</u> <u>Sago Palms</u> <u>Poinsettia</u> <u>Snake Plants (Mother in Laws Tongue)</u> <u>Wandering Jews</u> <u>ZZ Plants</u>	<u>Aloe Vera Plants</u> Amaryllis <u>Elephant's Ear</u> <u>Asparagus Ferns</u> <u>Bird of Paradise</u> <u>Croton</u> English Ivy <u>Flame Violet</u> <u>Hawaiian Ti</u> <u>Jade Plants</u> <u>Miniature Rose</u> <u>Ponytail Palms</u> <u>Schefflera</u> <u>Staghorn Ferns</u> <u>Yuccas</u> <u>Zebra Plants</u>

Top 4 Easiest to grow Houseplants- Hanging Baskets

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	Light	Water	Misc.
Spider Plant	<p>Moderate to bright light, 3-5ft from E or W facing window.</p> <p>Loves warm bright light, but no direct sunlight. Filtered through a sheer curtain is good. Will loose its leaf stripes if placed in dark location. Prolonged exposure to direct sunlight can scorch leaves.</p>	<p>Loves high humidity so mist often.</p> <p>Water weekly during the summertime and twice a month during the winter dormancy period.</p> <p>Prefers semi dry soil</p>	<p>Propagate its babies for gifts to friends.</p>
Wandering Jew	<p>Moderate to bright light, 3-5ft from E or W facing window.</p> <p>Loves warm bright light, but no direct sunlight.</p> <p>Filtered through a sheer curtain is good.</p> <p>Will loose its leaf stripes if placed in dark location.</p> <p>Prolonged exposure to direct sunlight can scorch leaves.</p>	<p>Loves high humidity so mist it very often.</p> <p>Don't add water directly to the top or the crown will rot.</p> <p>Water weekly during the summertime and twice a month during the winter dormancy period.</p> <p>Prefers semi dry soil.</p>	<p>The mother plant rarely lives over a year so propagate its leaves into new plants every summer.</p>
Philodendron	<p>Moderate light, 5-8ft from any window receiving sunlight.</p> <p>Loves warm bright light, but no direct sunlight.</p> <p>Filtered through a sheer curtain is good. Too little light causes the leaves to stay small. Will loose its leaf stripes if placed in dark location.</p> <p>Prolonged exposure to direct sunlight can scorch leaves.</p>	<p>Loves high humidity so mist it very often.</p> <p>Water weekly during the summertime and twice a month during the winter dormancy period.</p> <p>Overwatering causes leaves to turn yellow. Under watering causes browning</p> <p>Prefers semi dry soil.</p>	<p>Prefers its leaves cramped together so re-potting too soon is not beneficial.</p> <p>Keep away from children and pets, its sap may irritate people with sensitive skin.</p>
English Ivy	<p>Bright light, 2-3ft from southern facing window</p>	<p>Loves high humidity so mist it very often.</p> <p>Water weekly during the summertime and twice a month during the winter dormancy period.</p> <p>Overwatering causes leaves to turn yellow. Under watering causes browning</p> <p>Prefers semi dry soil.</p>	<p>Fast grower.</p>

Top 6 Most Fragrant Houseplants

(Houseplants, Douglas Spencer, October 16, 2012)

	Light	Water	Bloom Period	Bloom Color	Scent
Primrose	Light Shade	Moist-Well Drained Soil Recommend a Self-Watering Pot	Spring-Summer	Blue, Yellow, Red, Purple, Fuchsia, Lavender, Orange, Pink	Varies by Color
Mint	Bright Filtered Light No direct sunlight	Keep Soil Moist	None	None	Mint
Miniature Geranium	Bright Light	Moderate to High Humidity	Spring	Rose, Lemon, Lime Ginger, Nutmeg, and Chocolate	Lemon, Lime Ginger, Nutmeg, and Chocolate
Miniature Gardenia	Very Bright Light	High Humidity Recommend a Water and Rock Filled Dish Underneath	Spring	White	Like a Gardenia
Cuban Oregano	Medium to Bright Light	Keep Soil Moist but Don't Saturate	None	None	Very Spicy
Miniature Rose	Full Sun	Misted Daily	Virtually Continuously	Yellow, White, Pink, Lavender, Salmon, Red, Lavender, Fuchsia	Varies by Color

Top 12 Easiest to grow Houseplants- Potted

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	Light	Water	Misc.
Ponytail Palm	Prefers bright light but is very adaptable to less.	Twice a month during the growing season, once every month during the winter dormancy period	Thrives on neglect. Extremely slow growing, Slow growing so repotting is rare. Expensive but worth every penny.
Cacti, Succulent	Prefers bright light but any room with 2-3 hrs direct sun	Low, no more than once a month during the growing season	Overwatering is the problem so please neglect it, stems can hold water for over a month.
African Violets	Prefers filtered bright light but is very adaptable to less.	Hates getting its leaves wet so water from the top. Twice a month during the growing season, once every month during the winter dormancy period	Fast growing. Available in a wide variety of bright showy colors. Blooms generally in spring to summer. Best if grown in self-watering pot. Water should be room temperature never 15 degrees cooler.
Anthurium	Moderate to bright, 2-5ft from window. Never direct sunlight.	Low. Best if misted weekly. Direct watering no more than once a month during the growing season	It's pink, red, white heart shaped flowers last up to 8 weeks each and blooms continuously. Its leaves benefit from cleaning like "Leaf Shine".
Peace Lily	Moderate to bright, 2-5ft from window. Never direct sunlight.	Need lots of water and can survive in 100% water.	Fast growers. If under watered they will bounce back immediately after watering.
ZZ Plant	Prefers bright light but is very adaptable to less.	Twice a month during the growing season, once every month during the winter dormancy period	Thrives on neglect, Increased lighting speeds up growth, Slow growing so repotting is rare. Overwatering causes leaves to turn yellow.
Snake Plant	Moderate to bright, 2-5ft from window, but is very adaptable. Never direct sunlight	Twice a month during the growing season, once every month during the winter dormancy period	Overwatering causes drooping, under watering causes wrinkles. Its leaves benefit from cleaning like "Leaf Shine".
Rubber Tree	Low light, over 5ft from window.	Twice a month during the growing season, once every month during the winter dormancy period	Hates cold drafts and dark corners. Its leaves benefit from cleaning like "Leaf Shine".
Croton	Very bright light but any room with over 3 hrs direct sun	Because of its huge leaves it needs watering twice a week.	Recovers poorly from under watering.
Chinese Evergreen	Low light, over 5ft from window.	Moderate, must be well drained	Slow growing so repotting is rare.
Dieffenbachia	Moderate to low, 5-8ft from window	Requires moist soil so water often. Needs high humidity so place a water and rock filled dish under helps	Keep away from children and pets. If ingested can limit ability to talk thus name "Dumb Cane".
Parlor Palm	Prefers bright filtered light. Moderate, 5-8ft from window	The brighter the light the more water it needs.	If it cast a shadow its getting enough light.

NASA reports these plants as best to filter the air in your home - Handout

- [English Ivy](#) (*Hedera helix*)
- [Spider plant](#) (*Chlorophytum comosum*)
- [Golden pothos](#) or Devil's ivy (*Scindapsus aures* or *Epipremnum aureum*)
- [Peace lily](#) (*Spathiphyllum* 'Mauna Loa')
- [Chinese evergreen](#) (*Aglaonema modestum*)
- [Bamboo palm or reed palm](#) (*Chamaedorea sefritzii*)
- [Snake plant](#) or mother-in-law's tongue (*Sansevieria trifasciata* 'Laurentii')
- [Heartleaf philodendron](#) (*Philodendron oxycardium*, syn. *Philodendron cordatum*)
- [Selloum philodendron](#) (*Philodendron bipinnatifidum*, syn. *Philodendron selloum*)
- [Elephant ear philodendron](#) (*Philodendron domesticum*)
- [Red-edged dracaena](#) (*Dracaena marginata*)
- [Cornstalk dracaena](#) (*Dracaena fragans* 'Massangeana')
- [Janet Craig dracaena](#) (*Dracaena deremensis* 'Janet Craig')
- [Warneck dracaena](#) (*Dracaena deremensis* 'Warneckii')
- [Weeping Fig](#) (*Ficus benjamina*)
- [Gerbera Daisy](#) or Barberton daisy (*Gerbera jamesonii*)
- [Pot Mum](#) or Florist's Chrysanthemum (*Chrysanthemum morifolium*)
- [Rubber Plant](#) (*Ficus elastica*)

HANDOUT

How to grow Spider Plant from cuttings

(Houseplants, Douglas Spencer, October 16, 2012)

90% Success

1. **First, prepare small pot with peat and sand**
2. **Place new pot next to parent plant and bend stem until baby plantlet rests on new soil.**
3. **Peg stem to soil and firm soil around plantlet.**
4. **When plantlet grows new leaves, cut parent stem close to plantlet with scissors or sharp knife.**



60% Success

Some people just cut them off and place in water until roots form then plant them in peat moss.

HANDOUT

How to grow the Wandering Jew plant from cuttings

(Houseplants, Douglas Spencer, October 16, 2012)

STEPS

1. **Fill a 3 inch pot with either... peat moss and sand ... or... peat moss and a perlite mixture.**
2. **Choose and cut 3-5 healthy tips about 3 inches long. Must be short due to limited energy must go to root not leaf growth.**
3. **From each stem remove the lowest pair of leaves and dip the stem in rooting hormone powder.**
4. **Place all of the cuttings in one small pot with each cutting angled out in a circular pattern like spokes in a wheel.**
5. **Keep the new plants in a warm spot where it can receive bright, but filtered, sunlight.**
6. **Water the new plant when it is dry. Be careful not to over-water because cuttings can be susceptible to root rot.**
7. **Wait several months for roots to develop. When new leaves grow, is a sure sign rooting has taken place.**

