



*Dracaena Marginata*, commonly known as the Dragon Tree or Madagascar Dragon Tree, is a popular houseplant with slender, arching leaves featuring a distinctive red or burgundy margin. Here's a care and handling guide for *Dracaena Marginata*:

*Dracaena Marginata* Care and Handling Guide:

1. Light:

*Dracaena Marginata* prefers bright, indirect light. It can tolerate lower light conditions but will thrive with more light.

Protect the plant from direct sunlight, especially intense afternoon sun, as it can scorch the leaves.

2. Watering:

Allow the top inch of the soil to dry out before watering. *Dracaena Marginata* is sensitive to overwatering, so it's crucial to avoid waterlogged soil.

Water thoroughly, and ensure proper drainage to prevent root rot.

3. Soil:

Plant *Dracaena Marginata* in well-draining soil. A mix of potting soil, perlite, and orchid bark works well.

Use a container with drainage holes to allow excess water to escape.

4. Temperature and Humidity:

*Dracaena Marginata* prefers temperatures between 65°F to 75°F (18°C to 24°C). It can tolerate slightly cooler temperatures but is sensitive to drafts and cold air.

Maintain average indoor humidity levels. *Dracaena Marginata* is adaptable to varying humidity conditions.

5. Fertilization:

Feed *Dracaena Marginata* with a balanced liquid fertilizer every 4-6 weeks during the growing season (spring and summer).

Dilute the fertilizer to half the recommended strength to prevent over-fertilization.

6. Pruning:

Trim brown or yellow leaves regularly to encourage new growth. Prune to control the size and shape of the plant.

Remove any leggy or straggly growth to maintain a tidy appearance.

#### 7. Pests and Diseases:

Watch for pests such as spider mites and scale insects. Treat any infestations promptly with insecticidal soap or neem oil.

Ensure good air circulation to prevent fungal issues. Proper care reduces the risk of pest and disease problems.

#### 8. Propagation:

*Dracaena Marginata* can be propagated through stem cuttings. Take a 4-6 inch cutting, remove the lower leaves, and plant it in a well-draining rooting medium.

Provide warmth and humidity for successful propagation.

#### 9. Decorative Pot and Placement:

Choose a decorative pot with drainage holes to prevent waterlogging.

Place *Dracaena Marginata* in a location with bright, indirect light. It can tolerate lower light conditions but may grow more slowly.

#### 10. Caution:

*Dracaena Marginata*, like many *Dracaena* species, is toxic if ingested. Keep it out of reach of pets and children, and wash hands thoroughly after handling.

*Dracaena Marginata* is an elegant and resilient houseplant that adds a touch of tropical charm to indoor spaces. By following these care guidelines, you can maintain a healthy and vibrant Dragon Tree in your home or office.