



Ficus lyrata, commonly known as the Fiddle Leaf Fig, is a popular and attractive houseplant known for its large, glossy leaves shaped like a fiddle or violin. Here's a care and handling guide for Ficus lyrata:

Ficus Lyrata (Fiddle Leaf Fig) Care and Handling Guide:

1. Light:

Ficus lyrata prefers bright, indirect light. It can tolerate some direct sunlight but may suffer from leaf burn if exposed to intense sunlight for extended periods.

Place the plant near a window with filtered sunlight, avoiding harsh afternoon sun.

2. Watering:

Allow the top inch of the soil to dry out before watering. Fiddle Leaf Figs prefer slightly moist soil but are susceptible to root rot if overwatered.

Water thoroughly when needed, and let excess water drain away. Avoid letting the plant sit in standing water.

3. Soil:

Plant Ficus lyrata in a well-draining potting mix. A mix of potting soil, perlite, and orchid bark provides good aeration.

Use a container with drainage holes to prevent waterlogged conditions.

4. Temperature and Humidity:

Fiddle Leaf Figs prefer temperatures between 65°F to 75°F (18°C to 24°C). They are sensitive to drafts and sudden temperature changes.

Maintain moderate to high humidity levels. Regular misting or placing a humidifier nearby can help.

5. Fertilization:

Feed Ficus lyrata 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:

Prune Fiddle Leaf Figs to control their size and shape. Remove any yellow or brown leaves regularly.

If the plant becomes too tall or leggy, you can trim the top to encourage branching and a bushier appearance.

7. Pests and Diseases:

Keep an eye out 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:

Ficus lyrata can be propagated through stem cuttings. Take a 6-8 inch cutting with a few leaves, 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 Fiddle Leaf Fig in a location with bright, indirect light. Rotate the plant occasionally to ensure even growth.

10. Caution:

Ficus lyrata is toxic if ingested. Keep it out of reach of pets and children, and wash hands thoroughly after handling.

Fiddle Leaf Figs are known for their bold foliage and make stunning additions to indoor spaces. By following these care guidelines, you can enjoy a healthy and thriving Ficus lyrata in your home or office.