

## PLANT NAME: DRACAENA

### Lighting:

Dracaenas prefer bright, indirect light. While they can tolerate lower light conditions, they may not thrive or grow as vigorously. Avoid direct sunlight, especially intense afternoon sun, as it can scorch the leaves.

### Watering:

Allow the top inch (2.5 cm) of the soil to dry out before watering. Water thoroughly, and ensure that excess water drains away. Dracaenas are susceptible to root rot if the soil remains constantly waterlogged.

In winter, reduce the frequency of watering, allowing the soil to dry out a bit more between waterings, as the plant's growth slows down during this period.

### Temperature and Humidity:

Dracaenas prefer temperatures between 65–80°F (18–27°C). They are generally adaptable but should be protected from cold drafts and temperatures below 50°F (10°C).

They can tolerate average indoor humidity, but they may benefit from occasional misting or being placed on a tray filled with water and pebbles to increase humidity.

### Soil:

Use a well-draining potting mix suitable for indoor plants. Adding perlite or sand can help improve drainage.

### Fertilizing:

Feed your Dracaena with a balanced, water-soluble fertilizer during the growing season (spring and summer) every 4–6 weeks. Reduce or eliminate fertilization during the fall and winter when the plant is not actively growing.

### Pruning:

Prune your Dracaena to control its size and shape. Remove any yellow or damaged leaves with clean, sharp scissors or pruning shears. You can also trim back leggy growth to encourage bushier, more compact growth.

### Pests:

Keep an eye out for common indoor pests such as spider mites, scale insects, and mealybugs. If you notice any infestations, treat them promptly with insecticidal soap or neem oil.

### Repotting:

Repot your Dracaena when it becomes root-bound or outgrows its current container. Repotting is typically done every 2–3 years in the spring. Use fresh, well-draining soil, and choose a pot that is one size larger than the current one.

### Propagation:

Dracaenas can be propagated through stem cuttings. Allow the cut end of the stem to dry for a day or two, then plant it in moist, well-draining soil. Keep the soil consistently moist until the cutting establishes roots.

Remember that individual species and varieties within the Dracaena genus may have specific care requirements, so it's always a good idea to check for any unique needs associated with the particular Dracaena plant you have. Overall, Dracaenas are relatively low-maintenance and adaptable, making them excellent choices for indoor greenery.

