



Notes for Houseplants & Containers

Module

Chapter 13 Houseplants

Selecting Houseplants

When selecting houseplants, it is important to apply the concept of *Right Plant, Right Place*. Why?

Need to match the required growing conditions of the plant with the conditions of the home in order for a plant to thrive.

Acclimatization

Name the four key factors to successful acclimation and describe how they affect the plant's ability to transition to a new environment.

1. *Location: Location should be chosen based on the plant's specific light and temperature needs and space considerations.*
2. *Water: Water should be carefully monitored.*
3. *Cleaning: Plants should be cleaned to remove residues from the nursery and shipping.*
4. *Patience: It will take about 8 weeks for a plant to become acclimated to its new environment. While the plant is acclimating, it is normal to lose leaves. It is best to be patient and allow the new growth to become acclimated to the new conditions.*

Basic Indoor Plant Care

Light

How can you determine if your plants have enough light without specialized equipment?

In general, if plants are growing they are getting adequate light.



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Water

True or false. When you water your plants, you should add water until it drains through freely.

True

Temperature

What is the temperature range most tropical foliage plants prefer?

60-75°F

Soil & Nutrients

Why is garden soil alone in a pot not good for plants in containers?

Garden soil is too heavy for plants in containers and needs to be mixed with other components to improve drainage.

Potting techniques

Why would you choose the double-potting method over the standard potting procedure?

The double-potting method allows plants to be grown in containers without drainage holes.



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Chapter 19 General Gardening Practices

Growing in containers

All containers used for growing plants, both indoors and outdoors, must have drainage holes. Why?

Plant roots require oxygen and will die in soggy soil. Drainage holes allow excess moisture to escape the bottom of the pot.

A good growing media should have two key aspects. What are they?

A growing media for container plants should drain well and retain moisture.

What factors are important to keep in mind when choosing cultivars for containers?

Choose compact varieties or those developed for growing in containers.