

# How to Care For Your New Plant

Tips, Instructions &  
Care Guides

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Pink Pothos | @PinkPothosATL



# General Plant Care

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## Soil

Houseplants need to have room in their soil for root growth, aeration, and proper drainage. Plants need a balanced pH and regular nutrition to grow well. Houseplants can thrive in a variety of soils depending on the type of plant, but the best general soil mix would be the potting mix sold here at Pink Pothos. It is a well draining mix of organic soil, orchid bark, coco coir, activated charcoal, earthworm castings, and perlite.

## Repotting

You probably don't want to repot a plant right after you get it. If you just got a new plant that's still in the container it came in, the experts agree that you should give it a few days or even weeks to acclimate to your home before putting it in a pot.

Most houseplants need to be repotted once every 2-3 years, and the ideal time to repot your indoor plants shall be during the spring. Signs like frequent dehydration, droopiness, and roots coming out of the bottom of the pot, indicate that your plant is root-bound and needs repotting.

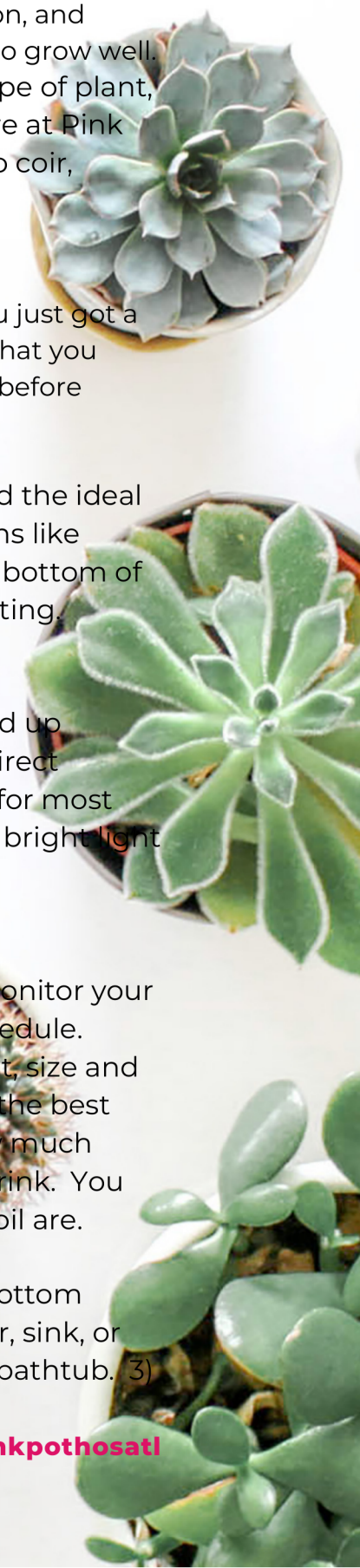
## Light Requirements

Most houseplants do not like full sun and many of them will end up damaged and will not survive long when receiving too much direct sunlight. Bright without direct sun is the lighting requirement for most foliage plants and many flowering types too. The best place for bright light without direct sun is a south facing window.

## Watering Guide

Most houseplants need watered every 1-3 weeks. You should monitor your houseplants and water when they need it, rather than on a schedule. Frequency of watering will depend on the size and type of plant, size and type of pot, temperature, humidity and rate of growth. One of the best assessments is by using the weight of the plant pot to test how much water remains in the soil. The lighter it is the more it needs a drink. You can also use your finger to feel how dry the first few inches of soil are.

When it is time to water your plant one of the best ways is by bottom watering: 1) Add or pour water into the bottom of the container, sink, or bathtub. 2) Place the pots or planters in the container, sink, or bathtub. 3) Leave the pots soaking in the water for 10 to 20 minutes.





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## Fertilizer

As a general rule, you should fertilize your indoor plants once a month with a balanced liquid fertilizer. If you are using a slow-release fertilizer, then use them once every 3 months. However, stop fertilizing during the winter months as most plants remain dormant during that period.

## Temperature & Humidity

You will find most house plants grow at their best between temperatures of 60 - 75°F. A minimum of 55°F is required for survival. Keep plants away from vents and cold drafts. Many of our indoor plants originate from humid jungle environments, so moisture in the air is vital to keep plants lush and healthy. Increase humidity for your plants by: 1) Misting regularly. 2) Using a pebble tray. 3) Implement a humidifier.

# Common Problems

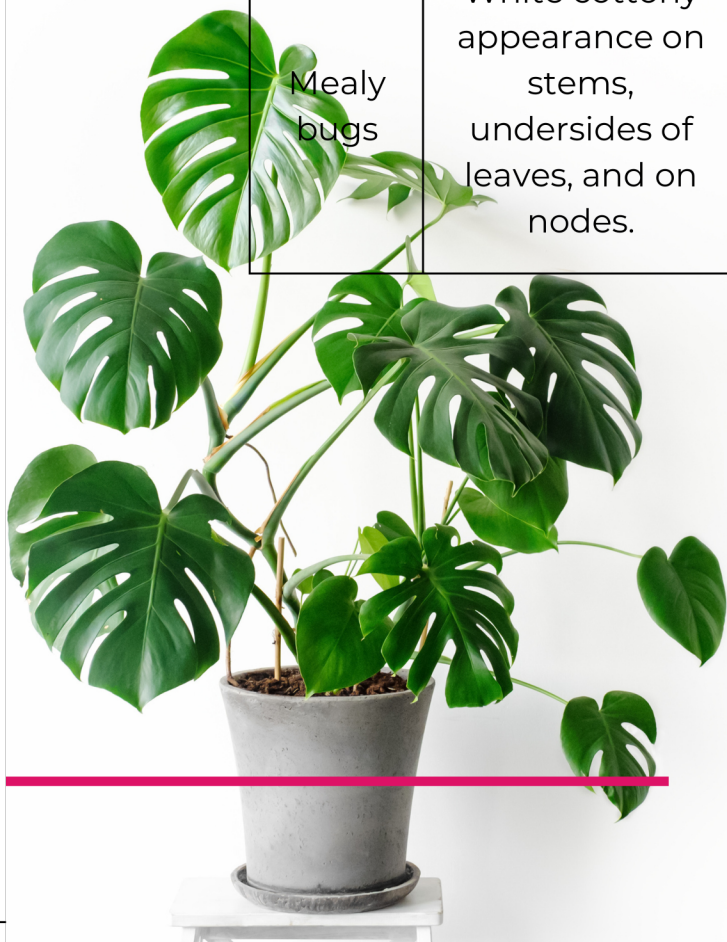
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- Wilting Leaves
  - Soil remains either too wet or too dry
- Yellowing Leaves
  - Overwatering
  - Not enough light
  - Humidity is too low
  - Soil drains poorly and remains wet for too long
  - Injured by low temperatures
- Brown Leaf Tips
  - Chemical burn
  - Soft water
  - Soil remains dry for extended periods of time
  - Temperature is too low
- Leggy Growth
  - Poor lighting conditions
- Dropping Leaves
  - Poor lighting conditions
  - Overwatering

## Common Pests in Houseplants

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Pest	Description	Damage	Solution
Fungal Gnats	Black insects, look like tiny mosquitoes or flies.	Causes Plant to wilt. Resulted from constant overwatered soil.	Dry plant out. Neem Oil. Diatomaceous earth. Top layer of sand. Bottom water plant.
Spider Mites	Looks like very tiny spiders. Tiny webbing visible on plant. Very invasive.	Distorted yellowish foliage from feeding.	Quarantine plant. Cut off heavily infested foliage. Wash with insecticidal soap or neem oil (repeat weekly for 2-3 weeks).
Mealy bugs	White cottony appearance on stems, undersides of leaves, and on nodes.	Stunted plant growth	Quarantine plant. Wash with insecticidal soap or neem oil (repeat weekly for 2-3 weeks).





## Repotting your Plant

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Repotting does not necessarily mean changing a plant's current planter, but can just be needing to change the plants soil mix. New soil means added nutrients.

If your plant has outgrown its current planter be sure to pick out a new planter that 1 - 2" larger than the current size for tabletop planters, and no more than 4" in diameter larger for floor planters.

This is important because the larger the planter the more water

it will be given. Small plant + oversized planter + lots of soil + lots of water = accidentally killing with kindness.

Plants typically benefit from being repotted every 12 to 18 months, depending on how actively they are growing.

Tips to use in determining if you need to repot your plant:

1. It's been over a year since the plant was repotted.
2. Roots are currently growing through the pot or drainage holes.
3. The plant is top heavy, and falls over easily.
4. The plant leaves are more than three times the size of the current planter.
5. Infestation of the plant soil.
6. Leaves of plant are turning yellow despite being healthy and not over or under watered.

## Steps to Repot Your Plant

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1. Turn your plant on its side, hold it gently by the stems or leaves, and tap the bottom until the plant slides out. You might need to gently tug on the base of the stems.
2. Loosen the plant's roots gently with your hands. Be careful not to disturb the roots too much but enough to remove about 1/3 or more of the old potting mix.
3. Pour a layer of fresh potting soil into the empty planter and ensure the root ball is at least 1/2" from the bottom.
4. Set your plant on top of the fresh layer of mix in the planter, making sure it's centered, then add more potting mix around the plant until it is secure.
5. Thoroughly water newly potted plant until water runs out the drainage holes.







*Thank you for your support!*

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