

The Busy Plant Parent Checklist



Are you a busy plant parent that could use an ultimate plant care checklist?

To be a confident and accomplished plant parent, you will have to be ready for some trial and error, [especially in tropical houseplants](#). You have to be aware of the needed resources to have handy for your plant's optimal growth and to prevent killing them as well.

Every plant has its needs and requirements however as a plant parent there are other essential checklists you need to make your plants happy.

Becoming a plant parent can be a lot easier if you are familiar with all the planting rules. Before you embark on houseplant collection, you should be aware of basic plant needs which are watering, fertilizer, light, humidity, temperature, and pruning. These listed are the keys to unlocking any plant mysteries.

You will be surprised to see that it is really easy to care for plants even the fussy ones. Not everyone has room for gardening or time for it but they can really be of benefit to you and the air around your home too.

You can stick to low-maintenance plants like the peace lily, snake plants, pothos, [philodendron](#), air plants, and many more.

List of Accessories Every Plant Parent Needs

Want your plants to be the healthiest and happiest they can be? You're going to need most of these things.

- A watering can
- Humidifier (Mostly important for tropical plants. Plants that thrive in dry conditions do not need it, [Tap here to see the ones we recommend](#)).
- Pots/containers ([Tap here to see the ones we recommend](#)).
- Fertilizer ([Tap here to see the ones we recommend](#)).
- Spray bottle/ plant misters ([Tap here to see the ones we recommend](#)).
- Herbicides/Neem Oil ([Tap here to see the ones we recommend](#)).
- Pruning shears
- Waterproof pads/ drip tray
- Pebbles
- Metal Straw
- Moisture meter
- Gloves
- Hand fork
- Label maker
- Soil/water test kit
- A trug
- Potting soil
- LED grow lights, or any light ([Tap here to see the ones we recommend](#)).

General Houseplant Care Guide

Some houseplants are easy to care for while some are considered very fussy however they all have the same requirements. This guide should help you as a busy plant parent provide enough of your houseplant's needs.

Plant requirements	What you should know
Watering	Keep the plant in a pot with a drainage hole and water every 2 to 4 days to keep the soil moist but not waterlogged. Best to water in the morning as a busy plant parent. Water desert and cacti succulents should be watered only when the top of the soil feels dry.
Temperature	The temperature will require common sense to determine. Tender plants 60 °F (15 °C). Half-hardy (many indoor plants): 50 – 55 °F (10 – 13 °C). Hardy: 45 °F (7 °C). Generally, the plants should be warm when it's growing.
Humidity	The ideal humidity for indoor plants especially tropical plants is a bit difficult to maintain but best to keep between 60% to 80%. If the plant seems sensitive to anything below 70%, especially in summer then it should do well with 60% or 40%.
Fertilization	Flowering plants should have fertilizer that is slightly higher in phosphorus. Green plants should have fertilizer higher in nitrogen. You should feed them every 2 weeks to once in 3 or 4 months.
Pests control	If an infestation of pests is discovered, add neem oil to water spray your plants. Neem oil should be effective against pests

	such as aphids, mites, scales, thrips, mealybugs, and white flies.
Sunlight	Foliage plants need about 14 to 16 hours of sunlight per day. Flowering plants need 12-16 hours. Indoor plants will do fine with 6 to 8 hours of sunlight. Place your houseplants close to an east or west-facing window so they can get enough sun during the day.
Soil	The best choice of soil is a good potting mix that composes of peat moss, vermiculite, and perlite. This potting mix absorbs moisture well hence they should make up when you forgot to water your plants.
Pruning	Houseplants should be pruned at the beginning of the growing season. The seasonal rule does not apply to woody plants, they require year-round running for you to get rid of all dead branches and leaves.
Re-potting	If your plant has outgrown its old pot then it is time to re-pot it into a pot that is 2-4 inches bigger. Have a new planter ready to re-pot and also use a new potting mix.

Tips For Busy Plant Owners

Being busy can limit your plant's care hence why having a checklist will help ensure everything is as it ought to be.

No one is a master when it comes to houseplants and if you are too busy, there is no reason to panic, below are essential tips that can further guide you.

- Prepare the soil
- Choose quality soil ([Potting soil vs mix](#))
- Understand lighting, watering, humidity, and temperature needs
- Increase home humidity
- Feel the soil regularly to understand its needs
- Skip fertilization if you are unsure
- Propagate plants if needed
- Use a nature journal to note or draw what you observed
- Inspect weekly
- Re-pot overgrown plants
- Control insect pests
- Prune if needed ([Our guide to pruning pothos](#)).



Easiest Houseplants For Busy Plant Parents

There are no rules on the type of houseplants you choose to grow however if you have very minimal time when it comes to caring for your plants. It is highly recommended that you go for easy plants that are hard to kill.

- African violet
- Orchids
- Cactus
- Oakleaf ivy
- Heart leaf philodendron
- Herbs
- Pothos ([See a list of pothos varieties you can grow or buy](#))
- Monstera deliciosa ([How to care for Monstera deliciosa](#))
- Lucky bamboo

- Jade plant
- Devil's ivy/Golden pothos
- Snake plant
- Umbrella plant
- Aloe
- Fiddle leaf fig ([Our fiddle leaf fig guides](#))
- Rubber tree
- Cast-iron plant.

Summary

New plant parents might start questioning their ability to keep their plants alive and this is why having a checklist is vital. Generally speaking, there are plants that need little to no care and they are a suitable option for busy plant parents.

However, this doesn't stop you from checking in on your plants regularly and making sure it has all it needs to thrive. Lastly, choose the right sit spot where they can get enough air and sunlight.