



# FROM CAPTIVATION TO CARE

# CALATHEAS

Calathea plants, known for their vibrant foliage and striking patterns, have captivated plant enthusiasts for centuries. Originating from the tropical regions of Central and South America, calatheas belong to the marantaceae family, which includes various species prized for their ornamental value.

## THE CALATHEA CARE GUIDE:

Caring for calatheas requires attention to their specific needs to ensure their health and beauty thrive in indoor settings.

Follow these guidelines for successful calathea care:

**Light:** Place your calathea in a location with medium to bright, indirect light. Direct sunlight can scorch their leaves, while too little light can affect their growth. Lower lights are fine in certain cases.

**Watering:** Keep the soil consistently moist but not waterlogged. Allow the top 1/2 inch to inch of soil to dry out slightly between waterings to prevent root rot.

**Humidity:** Calatheas thrive in high humidity environments. Maintain humidity levels between 50% to 60% by misting the leaves regularly or using a humidifier. This will help avoid drying out and browning edges, especially in the cooler months.

**Temperature:** Keep your calatheas in a warm environment with temperatures between 65°F to 80°F (18°C to 27°C). Protect them from drafts and sudden temperature fluctuations to avoid pests and disease.

**Soil:** Plant calatheas in well-draining, peat-based soil to prevent waterlogging and provide adequate aeration for the roots.

**Feeding:** Apply a balanced, water-soluble all-purpose houseplant food during the growing season (spring and summer). Avoid feeding in winter when growth slows down.

**Pruning:** Remove yellow or brown leaves promptly to maintain the plant's appearance and health. Regular pruning encourages new growth and prevents the spread of diseases.

**Common Issues:** Keep an eye out for common issues such as browning leaf tips, which may indicate underwatering, and yellowing leaves, which can be a sign of over or underwatering, or stress. Additionally, monitor your plant for signs of pest infestations, such as spider mites or aphids, and treat them promptly with insecticidal soap or neem oil to prevent further damage to the plant. Regularly inspect your calathea for any signs of distress and address any issues promptly to ensure its continued health and vitality.

With proper care and attention, calatheas can thrive as stunning additions to your indoor space, bringing a touch of tropical beauty and elegance to your everyday life.

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