



For the joy of gardening!

Estabrook's

STRING OF HEARTS CARE

LIGHT

String of hearts (*Ceropegia woodii*), including pink, silver and String of Spades forms, needs plenty of bright light. Gentle direct sun near a south- or west-facing window is helpful after gradual adjustment. Protect variegated leaves from scorching heat. Include the top of the pot in the light.

WATERING

Allow the potting mix to dry between thorough waterings. The fleshy leaves and tuberous roots store water, so avoid constantly damp soil or frequent small sips. Drain completely and empty the saucer. Water much less often in winter when growth slows, checking the mix before watering again.

SOIL

Use an especially well-drained cactus and succulent mix, adding perlite or grit if needed. A pot with drainage holes is essential. This plant tolerates a snug container; repot in spring only when needed, preserving the tubers and moving to a pot just slightly larger.

TEMPERATURE

Warm household conditions are suitable; keep winter temperatures above 60°F. Protect from cold glass, drafts and frost. Normal indoor humidity is adequate. If moved outdoors in summer, acclimate gradually to stronger light and bring the plant inside before autumn cold arrives.

FERTILIZING & TRAINING

Feed sparingly, no more than monthly while actively growing, using a dilute houseplant or succulent fertilizer according to the label. Stop feeding during winter rest. Let the fine stems trail or train them gently on a small support; untangle carefully to avoid snapping the vines.

PESTS & MAINTENANCE

Watch for mealybugs around leaf joints and the soil surface. Isolate affected plants before treatment. Small bead-like tubers along healthy stems are normal and can root into fresh mix to make new plants. Soft stems or tubers call for checking for excess moisture and poor drainage.