WAX IVY CARE GUIDE

LIGHT

Give wax ivy (Senecio macroglossus), including variegated forms, bright, filtered light. It has fleshy, ivy-shaped leaves and can climb or trail. Protect it from strong summer sun through glass. Variegated foliage needs good light, but pale leaf margins can scorch.

WATERING

Water thoroughly after the upper layer of mix has dried slightly. Allow excess water to drain completely and empty the saucer or decorative pot. Keep some moisture deeper in the root ball without leaving it soggy. In winter, keep just lightly moist and check before watering again.

SOIL

Use an open, freely draining indoor potting mix in a container with drainage holes. Roots need air as well as moisture. Repot when roots fill the pot or the mix deteriorates, choosing a container only slightly larger. Avoid packing wet mix tightly around the stems.

TEMPERATURE

Keep in a comfortable, frost-free indoor room with moderate humidity and good ventilation. Avoid cold drafts and hot air from radiators or vents. Keep leaves from touching cold glass. Changes in light or temperature should be gradual, especially after a move from the greenhouse.

FERTILIZING

Apply a balanced houseplant fertilizer at its label dilution during active growth. Reduce feeding as growth slows in winter and avoid feeding a dry root ball. Train stems gently onto a trellis or let them trail. Trim only as needed to keep the desired shape.

PESTS

Inspect leaf undersides and stems for mealybugs, scale and spider mites. Separate affected plants and ask us about treatment. Remove dead foliage with clean tools. Keep this ornamental vine away from chewing pets and children. Check drainage if the pot remains wet for long periods.