



*For the joy of gardening!*

**Estabrook's**

## POLYSCIAS ARALIA CARE

### **LIGHT**

Ming aralia (*Polyscias fruticosa*) and Fabian-type aralia (*P. scutellaria*) prefer bright, indirect light. Shield foliage from harsh direct midday sun. Give them a stable location with good filtered daylight, rather than repeatedly moving the pot between very different conditions.

### **WATERING**

Water thoroughly when the upper layer of mix starts to dry, keeping the root ball lightly moist. Drain completely and empty the saucer. Avoid both prolonged dryness and constantly wet soil. Reduce frequency during slow winter growth, checking moisture rather than watering by a calendar.

### **SOIL**

Use a loose, fertile houseplant mix with good drainage and a pot with drainage holes. Avoid oversized containers that hold excess water. Repot in spring when crowded, disturbing roots as little as possible and keeping the stem base at its previous planting depth.

### **TEMPERATURE & HUMIDITY**

Keep aralias warm and stable, generally around 65-80°F, away from cold glass and drafts. Moderate to high humidity supports healthy foliage. A humidifier helps when indoor winter air is dry. Avoid placing the pot beside heating or air-conditioning vents.

### **FERTILIZING**

Feed lightly during active spring and summer growth with a balanced houseplant fertilizer, following label directions. Reduce or pause feeding during slow growth. Prune selectively with clean scissors to maintain shape, removing weak or dead growth without stripping healthy foliage.

### **PESTS**

Inspect stems and leaf undersides for mites, scale and mealybugs. Isolate affected plants promptly. Leaf shedding can follow dry roots, wet roots, cold or a sudden move. Stabilize conditions and check the root-zone moisture before increasing watering or fertilizer.