



For the joy of gardening!

Estabrook's

CREEPING FIG CARE

LIGHT

Creeping fig (*Ficus pumila*, also sold as *Ficus repens*) needs bright, indirect light. Protect its delicate leaves from strong afternoon sun. Variegated forms need especially good light to retain their markings. Oak-leaf *Quercifolia* has the same basic needs. Avoid a dark shelf or hot windowsill.

WATERING

Keep the root ball evenly, lightly moist. Water thoroughly as the surface begins to dry, before the entire pot dries out, then drain and empty the saucer. Check small pots frequently. Creeping fig needs more consistent moisture than tree-form ficus; repeated drying causes leaves to shrivel and fall.

SOIL

Use a fertile houseplant mix that retains some moisture but drains freely. Choose a container with drainage holes and repot when roots crowd the pot, moving up only one size. Keep the plant at its original depth. Never leave the nursery pot standing in water inside a decorative cover.

TEMPERATURE & HUMIDITY

Give steady household warmth and humid air. Keep away from cold drafts, heating vents and freezing temperatures. A humidifier or a bright, humid bathroom can help during winter. In a terrarium, check moisture before watering because the mix dries much more slowly.

FERTILIZING & TRAINING

Feed lightly during active growth with a houseplant fertilizer at its labeled rate; reduce feeding as growth slows. Allow stems to trail or train them on a support. Keep the vine away from walls and furniture where its clinging roots could attach and damage surfaces.

PRUNING & PROBLEMS

Trim long stems with clean tools to encourage branching. Wear gloves and protect surfaces from the irritating, staining white sap. Dry leaves can reflect uneven moisture, dry air or excess sun. Check these conditions and inspect for pests before changing care or adding fertilizer.