



BLUE STAR FERN CARE

LIGHT

Blue star fern (*Phlebodium aureum*), including Davana and other varieties, prefers bright, filtered light. Protect the blue-green fronds from hot direct sun. A position near an east- or north-facing window can work well. Allow space for arching leaves and creeping, fuzzy rhizomes.

WATERING

Keep the mix lightly moist, allowing the surface to dry slightly before watering thoroughly. Direct water onto the mix around the plant, then drain fully and empty the saucer. Reduce frequency during slow winter growth. Avoid keeping roots constantly saturated or leaving the pot dry for prolonged periods.

SOIL

Use an open, airy fern mix with fine bark and perlite or similar coarse material. This epiphytic fern needs air around its roots. Choose a pot with drainage holes. Repot when crowded or the mix breaks down, keeping the golden, fuzzy rhizomes at the surface rather than burying them.

TEMPERATURE & HUMIDITY

Steady household warmth around 60-75°F is suitable. Keep away from cold drafts, hot radiators and drying vents. Moderate to high humidity and gentle air movement support healthy fronds. Use a humidifier if winter air is very dry; additional soil water cannot replace humidity.

FERTILIZING

Feed lightly about monthly during active spring and summer growth with a balanced liquid houseplant fertilizer at the labeled fern dilution. Reduce or stop feeding when growth slows. Avoid strong applications or fertilizing dry, stressed roots. Remove fully dead or damaged fronds with clean scissors.

PESTS

Check for scale, mites and thrips, isolating affected plants promptly. Use only treatments suitable for sensitive fern foliage. Round, regularly arranged brown spots beneath mature fronds may be normal spore structures. Curling or browning calls for checking moisture and humidity; soft crowns can indicate rot.