



CAT PALM CARE

LIGHT

Cat palm (*Chamaedorea cataractarum*) grows best indoors with abundant, bright, indirect light. Place it near a bright window, shielding the fronds from hot midday sun through glass. Turn the pot occasionally for even growth and allow space for its spreading, clustered foliage.

WATERING

Keep the root ball consistently, lightly moist. Cat palms usually need more frequent watering than parlor palms. Water as the surface starts to dry, before the pot dries throughout. Let excess water drain and empty the saucer; moist roots still need air and must not stay waterlogged.

SOIL

Use a moisture-retentive yet well-drained houseplant mix, with a container that has drainage holes. Repot only when crowded, moving up one size and handling roots gently. Keep the crown at its original level. Check large pots carefully, as the lower mix may remain wet.

TEMPERATURE & HUMIDITY

Provide steady household warmth, roughly 65-80°F, and protect from frost and cold drafts. Moderate to high humidity helps prevent crisp frond tips. Keep away from radiators and drying vents; use a humidifier if winter air becomes very dry. Allow gentle air circulation.

FERTILIZING

Apply a balanced houseplant or palm fertilizer during active spring and summer growth, following label directions. Feed lightly and pause during slow winter growth. Do not fertilize a dry or stressed plant, and avoid excess salts that can damage the roots.

PESTS & PRUNING

Inspect frond undersides for mites, scale and mealybugs. Isolate affected plants before using a labeled treatment. Remove fully brown fronds with clean scissors while preserving healthy green leaves. Never cut the central growing spear. Brown tips call for checking moisture, humidity and fertilizer levels.