



For the joy of gardening!

Estabrook's

PTERIS FERN CARE

LIGHT

Brake and table ferns (Pteris), including silver ribbon, silver lace and tricolor types, prefer bright, indirect light indoors. Protect delicate fronds from hot direct sun. A filtered east-facing window is suitable. Avoid a dark corner, where growth becomes weak.

WATERING

Keep the root ball evenly, lightly moist. Water as the surface begins to dry, before the mix dries throughout. Soak evenly, let excess water drain and empty the saucer. Reduce frequency as growth slows in winter, while checking that roots remain slightly damp.

SOIL

Use a loose, moisture-retentive fern or houseplant potting mix with good drainage. A pot with drainage holes is essential. Repot crowded plants in spring, moving up just one size. Keep the crown at its original level and avoid packing the mix tightly.

TEMPERATURE & HUMIDITY

Steady household temperatures around 60-75°F suit these indoor ferns. Keep away from cold drafts, hot radiators and drying vents. Moderate to high humidity helps prevent crisp tips. Use a humidifier when winter air is dry, with gentle air movement around the foliage.

FERTILIZING

Feed lightly during active spring and summer growth with a balanced houseplant fertilizer at the labeled fern dilution. Reduce or stop feeding during slow growth. Do not fertilize dry or stressed roots; excessive feeding can scorch delicate foliage.

PESTS

Inspect fronds for scale, mealybugs and mites. Isolate infested plants and use only treatments suitable for ferns. Remove dead or damaged fronds with clean scissors. Crisp tips can reflect dry roots or air; wet, declining crowns call for checking drainage before adding more water.