



FITTONIA CARE

LIGHT

Fittonia, or nerve plant, prefers bright, indirect light. Place near a north- or east-facing window, away from strong direct sun that can scorch its patterned leaves. It also grows under suitable plant lights. Avoid hot south-facing windowsills where the small root ball dries quickly.

WATERING

Keep the mix lightly and consistently moist. Water as the surface starts to dry, before the plant wilts, then drain and empty the saucer. Check small pots often. A dry plant may recover after watering, but repeated severe wilting weakens it. Wet, poorly drained roots can rot.

SOIL

Use a moisture-retentive houseplant mix with good drainage in a small pot with drainage holes. Roots are shallow, so avoid oversized, deep containers. Repot only when roots fill the pot, choosing one slightly larger. Keep the crown at its original depth and remove dead material from the soil surface.

TEMPERATURE & HUMIDITY

Give steady warmth, preferably above 63°F, and protect from cold drafts and temperatures below 60°F. Fittonia appreciates humid air. A bright bathroom, humidifier or suitable terrarium can help. Keep away from radiators. In an enclosed terrarium, water far less often and never leave the soil saturated.

FERTILIZING

Fittonias need little fertilizer. Feed occasionally during active growth, about every 2-3 months, with a dilute general-purpose houseplant fertilizer following label directions. Reduce feeding during slow winter growth. Fertilizer will not correct a dry root ball, unsuitable light or low humidity.

PESTS & GROOMING

Pinch growing tips to encourage a fuller plant, and remove dead leaves with clean tools. Inspect for mealybugs, scale and spider mites, isolating affected plants before treatment. Brown edges can signal dry air or sun exposure. Yellowing and wilting call for checking moisture and drainage before adding more water.