



Best Houseplants for Beginners

| Plant Name | Light Needs | Features |
|---|-----------------|---|
| Cast Iron Plant (<i>Aspidistra elatior</i>) | Low | Cold-tolerant |
| Chinese Evergreen (<i>Aglaonema</i>) | Low | Tolerates dry air |
| Dracaena | Low | Many varieties to choose from |
| Kentia Palm (<i>Howea forsteriana</i>) | Low | Unlike most palms, tolerates dry, heated air |
| Philodendron | Low | Vining habit works in hanging baskets or containers |
| Snake Plant (<i>Sansevieria</i>) | Low | Insect-resistant |
| African Violet (<i>Saintpaulia</i>) | Medium/Indirect | Great combination of foliage; almost constant blooms; likes humidity |
| Dumb Cane | Medium/Indirect | Several varieties to choose from |
| Ficus | Medium/Indirect | Seldom needs repotting; many varieties of shapes & sizes |
| Fishtail Palm (<i>Caryota mitis</i>) | Medium/Indirect | Tolerates lower light better than most palms |
| Lady Palm (<i>Rhapis excelsa</i>) | Medium/Indirect | Can tolerate cooler indoor temperatures |
| Peperomia | Medium/Indirect | Semi-succulent leaves; can tolerate lack of water |
| Pothos (<i>Epipremnum aureum</i>) | Medium/Indirect | Vining habit; tolerates irregular watering |
| Rubber Plant (<i>Ficus elastica</i>) | Medium/Indirect | Seldom needs repotting; variety of forms |
| Schefflera (<i>Brassaia</i>) | Medium/Indirect | Glossy leaves; likes high humidity |
| Spider Plant (<i>Chlorophytum comosum</i>) | Medium/Indirect | Good for hanging baskets; produces stems that can be used for propagation |



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| Aloe (Aloe barbadensis) | Bright/Direct | Fleshy, succulent leaves have a nice texture |
| Cactus (various) | Bright/Direct | Very easy care; there is an abundance of attractive varieties |
| Croton (Codiaetum) | Bright/Direct | Variety of foliage colors |
| Ponytail Palm (Beaucarnea recurvata) | Bright/Direct | Slow grower; bulb base stores water |

No matter how large or small your living space is, you can try one of the above listed plants. They are grouped by light requirements:

Low Light- Prefers or can tolerate minimum light. North-facing windows are a good place. Interior locations of the house (e.g. coffee or end tables) offer a good environment as well.

Medium/Indirect Light- Bright light, but no direct sun is the rule for these. West or south-facing windows are great-just keep them a foot or two from the window itself.

Bright/Direct Light- These are sun-worshippers. Put them on the windowsill facing south or west.