

Plant Health Guide

Your 2 Step Process to Keeping Your Plants Healthy



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FOREWORD

Every plant will encounter some Challenges in its lifetime... This is normal! Knowing how to help your plant along will give it the best chance to thrive. Our Plant Health Guide is divided into two Steps:

Step 1: Identify the Symptom

Look at the list of possible Flower, Growth or Foliage Symptoms, and identify the one that most closely resembles the challenge that your plant is facing.

Step 2: Choosing the Solution(s)

Find the Solution to the Symptom in our Solutions Table (see further on). Pick whichever Solutions you would like to implement. We suggest implementing one solution at a time according to your environment and overall symptoms.

Please note; this guide is not definitive. Should you prefer specific input, consider checking out our Plant Specific Care Guidelines on our website's Plant Care Section.

1

IDENTIFYING THE SYMPTOM

The 3 classes of symptoms: foliage, growth and flowers

FOLIAGE



Brown tips or margins



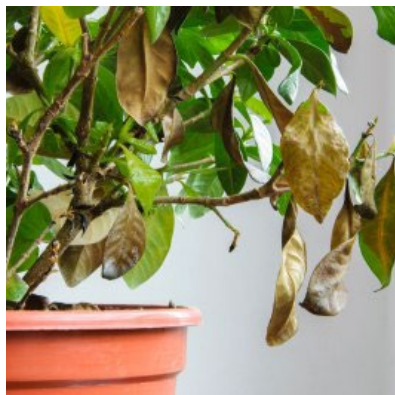
Leaves with spots



Yellowing leaves



Pale / Bleached leaves



All leaves drop/ leaf loss



Leaves wilt

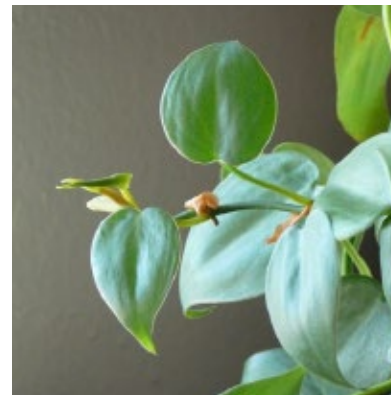


The oldest leaves drop

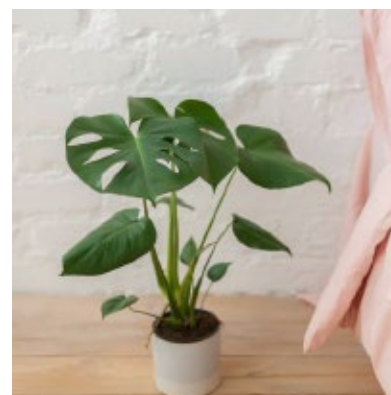
GROWTH



Plant stretching or leggy growth

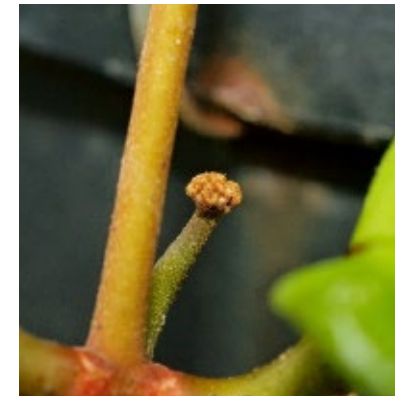


New leaves stay small

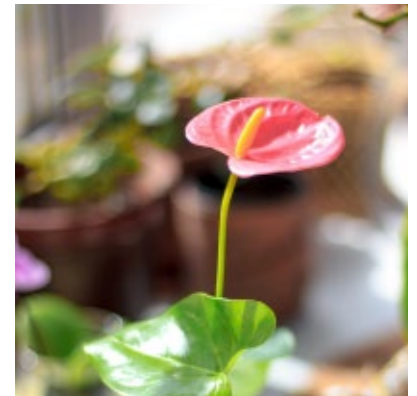


Plant doesn't produce new leaves (no growth)

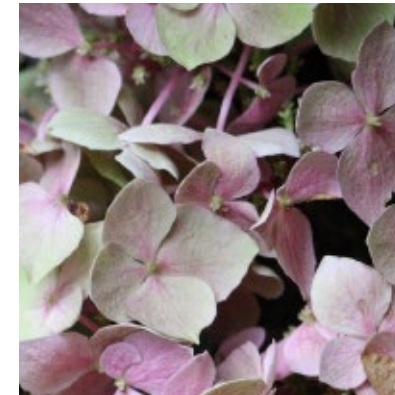
FLOWERS



Flower buds fail to develop



New flowers stay very small



Flower colour is less intense



Flowers decline or die too fast



Plant produces no flowers at all

2

IDENTIFYING THE SOLUTIONS

Choosing one or more of the 11 Possible Solutions to the Symptom

START HERE
STEP 1

STEP 2

Reduce the
amount of light

Increase the
amount of light

Increase Day-
length

Reduce
Temperature

Increase
Temperature

Water
the Plant

Reduce water
or improve
drainage

Reduce
Fertilizer

Add
Fertilizer

Loosen Soil
(de-compact)

Adjust
Growing
Container Size

Increase
Humidity

LEAVES	Brown Tips / Margins	X			X		X		X			X	X
	Pale / Bleached leaves	X			X				X				
	Yellowing leaves	X	X	X				X		X	X		X
	Oldest Leaves Drop		X	X	X		X			X			X
	All Leaves Drop	X			X		X				X		
	Leaves with Spots	X				X	X			Additional: Check for Fungus			
	Leaves Wilt	X			X		X		X			X	
GROWTH	Weak, Thin, Soft stems		X				X			X	X	X	
	New Leaves Small		X	X			X			X	X	X	X
	No Growth			X		X	X			X	X	X	X
FLOWERS	Fail To Develop		X	X			X	X		X	X		X
	Color is less intense		X			X	X	X		X	X		
	Decline / Die too Fast				X		X						X
	Newer Ones Smaller		X							X	X	X	X
	No Blooms at all		X	X	X					X		X	X

Here’s some more detail on how you can implement your Simple Response!

RESPONSE	DESCRIPTION
Reduce Amount Light	Move the plant to a place where there is less light – i.e. exposure to direct sun can be too intense for some plants.
Increase Amount Light	Move the plant to a place where there is more light – insufficient light impairs photo synthesis and flowering.
Increase Day length	Move the plant to a place where it has access to more daytime hours of light – if it is too short, it will reduce growth and vigor.
Reduce Temperature	Move the plant to a place where the temperature is less intense/warm.
Increase Temperature	Move the plant to a place where the temperature is generally warmer.
Reduce Water / improve drainage	The plant receives too much water which reduces soil aeration -- roots die, water, and nutrients are not absorbed. You have 3 Options: a) Reduce the amount of water you give the plant; b) re-pot the plant into a container with better drainage (holes in the bottom); c) Change the potting mix within the container to include more Coarse materials (potting soil) and Bulk Nutritional Materials.

RESPONSE	DESCRIPTION
Reduce Fertilizer	Reduce the amount of Fertilizer that you give the plant as part of your feeding regime – too much fertilizer injures plant roots and reduces water uptake.
Add Fertilizer	Increase the amount of Fertilizer that you give the plant as part of your feeding regime – too little fertilizer creates a deficiency of nutrients required for plant growth.
Loosen Soil	Plants need air around their roots – wet the soil, very gently stick a skewer (thin chopstick) into the soil, and make small circular movements. Alternatively, with dry soil, extract the plant from the container, and very gently compress the root-soil structure with your fingers before returning the plant to the container again.
Adjust Growing Container Size	Depending on the plant type and its size, relevant to its container, you may need to repot the plant into a larger or smaller container.
Increase Humidity	There are different ways to improve humidity, including: a) misting the leaves of the plant more regularly with a water spray can; b) placing some water in a tray (e.g. on top of a cupboard), preferable in an area with a draft and which gets warm; c) getting a humidifier.



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Visit www.plantify.co.za for specific Plant Care Instructions
and detailed Care Guidelines on our Blog.