

After shipping care guide

General Information

When we receive or import plants, we keep them in our greenhouse for at least 4-8 weeks. This gives them enough time to acclimate, recover from transit shock and start producing new growth (roots and leaves). During this time we also make sure that they are free of any pests and diseases. The greenhouse conditions that they are being kept in have a tropical climate: day temperature (27-30°C), night temperature (20-22°C) and humidity from 85-95%.

NOTE

Keep in mind that shipping is a stressful process for the plant and they deal with it in certain ways. Older leaves may turn yellow and fall off, new growth that was developing can be stunted or some cosmetic damage on the leaves can occur, but that is all normal and generally, nothing to be worried about. We assure you that we check the plants thoroughly for pests or any underlying issues, however, these can still occur.

If you notice that anything is wrong with your plant (pests, rotting roots, mushy leaves) please message us within 24h when you receive your plants, or as soon as possible. Also, provide clear pictures of what seems to be an issue.

IMPORTANT NOTE

Please leave the plant as it is. Don't prune it, don't remove any rotting parts, etc. without previous discussion with us about the damage and the next steps. We can't offer a refund for plants that are not in the same condition (except for damages due to shipping) as before to shipping.

Watering

It might be hard to determine if a plant is dehydrated because the leaves need a few days to perk back up after shipping. If the leaves feel floppy, the veins on the leaves pop out and the pot is light, the plant probably needs water. We suggest watering in small amounts, as this can prevent shock from absorbing too much water. Note that stressed plants won't need as much water as acclimated plants. If you have super thrive at your hands, you can use that as well as it helps with shipping stress.

Repotting

Our plants are grown in different mediums, some in coco coir while others in aroid mix, or moss. We choose the right medium for every type of plant. We also understand that you want to have your plant potted in a mix you are comfortable with.

We strongly advise against immediate repotting after arrival. This only raises the stress level of the plant, which can lead to even more damage or in the worst case, the death of the plant. Therefore, it is recommended to let the plant adapt to its new environment first.

IMPORTANT NOTE

A general rule for repotting: Don't destroy the root ball!

Only completely acclimatised and strong plants would survive such stress. The plant is extremely stressed after shipping and destroying the root ball only adds to it. The recovery is hard and the plant might not make it in the end.

Here are some information on the substrate or medium we send our plants to you:

If you receive a plant that is potted in a mix with coco coir:

This potting medium holds a lot of moisture and the majority of insects do not appreciate its texture. However, it holds no nutrient value for your plants, which is necessary for them to grow healthy. In this case, we suggest waiting about a week before repotting, so the plant can get used to your environment first.

If you receive a plant that is potted in aroid mix:

This mix contains ingredients that best imitate plants' natural growing conditions (lots of bark and perlite, also the organic matter that provides micro and macronutrients). In this case, we suggest that you leave the plant in this mix until it starts showing signs of new growth. It's when you know that the plant has recovered from shipping and further repotting won't stress it out as much.

If you receive a plant bare rooted (packed in sphagnum):

In this case, it is advised not to remove all the soil around the main root ball and disturb it too much. It's best to leave it in sphagnum for a week, before repotting it (doesn't apply to cuttings, if they don't have well enough developed roots). Make sure the moss is evenly moist and not soggy.

Substrates

Airy aroid mix with charcoal:

The perfect mix for all types of aroids is a mix of soil, perlite, moss, orchid bark and charcoal. Adding worm castings as a fertilizer makes your mix even better. Charcoal has great absorbing abilities thus helps to absorb excess moisture, balances pH and protects against fungus, bacteria and further rot. Wait a day to water and use small amounts of water. Try keeping potting media more on the dry side rather than wet. This will allow the cut to heal, as dryer medium lowers the chances of reinfection and spreading rot any further.

Sphagnum moss:

Using only moss as a substrate is perfect for anthuriums, but you can also use it for philodendron or just for rooting cuttings.

This growing media is great as it provides lots of air pockets, enough moisture and some nutrients. When potting your plant make sure you squeeze excess water out, you want your moss to be moist and not soggy. Another thing to note is to not pack moss too tightly in the pot, make it fluffy. This medium works well with Anthuriums, plants that need to grow some more roots or cuttings.

Location

When you've gone through all of the previous points, it is time to put your plant on the spot where it won't be disturbed and it will recover from the stress. Choose a location that has dimmed light, high humidity and warm temperatures.

Light:

Since the plant was sent in the box with complete darkness, putting it in bright light will only stress it more and potentially burn it as well. We suggest putting your newly acquired plant in a low light situation for a few days and then gradually start exposing it to more light.

Humidity:

The majority of the plants that we sell are tropical plants that are kept in high humid conditions - greenhouse. Higher humidity means that the plant will be transpiring less and thus losing less water. Sufficient humidity will also help with plants photosynthesis. We suggest putting your plant close to the humidifier, inside a greenhouse or in a closed box container and keeping humidity above 70%. It is also important to provide enough airflow to avoid fungal and bacterial problems.

Temperature:

As these plants are tropical, they usually grow in temperatures that range from around 22 at night up to 32 degrees Celsius over the day. Optimal temperatures would be from 24 to 29 degrees. From a permanent temperature lower than 22 degrees they won't produce that much new growth or build good roots. If the temperature is lower than 20 degrees Celsius some species can completely stop producing new growth. If you cannot provide high enough temperature inside your home, we suggest using a heat mat.

The interaction of light and temperature:

In general, lower temperature equals less growth. You should still keep attention to a fair balance between light and temperature. The colder it is, the less light should the plant get. The hotter the temperature, the more light you should provide. If you have a room with mixed conditions, for example, a dark room with high temperatures, your plant is likely to develop small and distorted foliage.

The points above are optimal conditions for plants to grow fast and produce big foliage. Some plants (mostly Philodendrons such as Gloriosum), will do just fine and grow healthy in normal room humidity and temperature. Their rate of growth will be slower and the leaves will take a longer time to grow in size. However, with more exotic and finicky ones especially Anthuriums, we recommend growing them in conditions as close to the tropics (high humidity, warm temperatures) as possible. This will ensure that the plant stays healthy, keeps producing new and undamaged leaves and grows faster.

IMPORTANT NOTE

Please be aware that the different species vary in difficulty. Inform yourself promptly about the plant you intend to buy to see if it's a challenge you want to take on.

Observe

The key to fast recovery after transport is to leave the plant alone. Try not to move it too much and just let it sit on one spot. Keep an eye if you notice any changes and react to them accordingly.

Fertilizer

We suggest not to fertilize plants when you get them straight away. Wait at least 2-3 weeks or until you see signs of new growth. Plants won't use a lot of nutrients and vitamins when they are staying stagnant while recovering. Adding fertilizer in such times can lead to burning, as the plants priority isn't pushing out new growth, but getting used to the new environment. General recommendation when fertilizing is to always use at least 1/2 or less strength than recommended on the label.