

SWEETHEART PHILODENDRON • PHILODENDRON BRAZIL

There are over 200 different varieties of philodendron plants that come in different sizes, colors, and leaf shapes. The Heartleaf or Sweetheart Philodendron has dark green, shiny, heart-shaped leaves and looks great as a table or hanging plant. Heartleaf Philodendrons are some of the most popular plants we use in homes and offices; they thrive on neglect and are almost impossible to kill

CARE

LIGHT

A Heartleaf Philodendron can survive in low light conditions, but grows faster and produces more leaves in medium or bright indirect light. Never put any Philodendron Plant in direct sun.

WATER

Water well and then allow the top 50% of the soil dry out before watering again. Yellow leaves indicate over-watering and brown leaves mean the plant needs more water.

FERTILIZER

Feed monthly in the spring and summer with a basic houseplant food diluted to 1/2 the recommended strength. Fertilize every other month in the fall and winter. Heartleaf Philodendron are fast growing plants and need quite a bit of plant food, but should be fertilized only when they are actively producing new leaves.

TEMPERATURE

Heartleaf Philodendrons grow well in temperatures between 70°F-80°F during the day and above 55° F at night.

HUMIDITY

Basic household humidity is fine though higher humidity encourages larger leaves.

FLOWERING

A Heartleaf Philodendron does not produce flowers indoors.

PESTS

Keep an eye out for aphids, spider mites, mealy bugs, thrip, and scale.

DISEASES

Root-rot from over-watering is the main disease problem

SOIL

Use a well-aerated, all-purpose potting soil that drains quickly.

POT SIZE

Re-pot only when the plant has become root-bound in its existing container. Smaller pots help prevent over-watering.

PRUNING

Keep the long vines pruned so that the plant stays full and doesn't become leggy. Wash the leaves frequently to prevent dust from clogging the pores of the plant.

PROPAGATION

A Heartleaf Philodendron is easily propagated using stem cuttings, especially during the growing season. Be sure the stem cutting has several nubs on it. Nubs are the little bumps where the leaves meet the stem and where new roots will eventually develop.

CLEAN AIR PLANT

NASA lists a heartleaf philodendron as a clean air plant that removes formaldehyde, a chemical found in insulation, floor coverings, cleaning agents, pressed wood, and even paper towels, from the air.