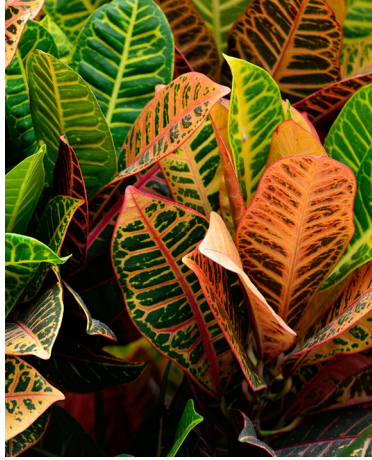


# CRONTON CARE GUIDE

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**Cronton**  
*Codiaeum variegatum*

## WATER

These plants prefer moist but well drained soil. I would plan to water when the top 2" of soil dries out. This may be more frequently in the summer and less in the winter.

## SOIL TYPE

This plant prefers humus-rich, acidic soil.

## FERTILIZER

This plant appreciates nutrient rich soil and would do well with an occasional top dressing of compost or worm castings. Another way to feed the plant would be to add an acidifying liquid fertilizer (3-1-2 or 8-2-10 ratio) to the watering routine once a month.

## PRUNING

These plants will respond positively to pruning, especially if the plant has become leggy. At the beginning of the growing season, around March, trim just above a node or leaf set. Try not to remove more than 1/3 of the stem at one time.

## LIGHT

These tropicals need an abundance of light to maintain their colorful leaves. This means they will be happiest in front of west-facing, east-facing windows, or a couple of feet back from south-facing windows. It is important to avoid direct noon day sun as this could burn the leaves.

## AIR

These tropicals will appreciate a higher humidity and the best way to increase humidity around the plant is the use of a pebble tray. They also need room temperatures to be on the warmer side, between 60-75 degrees.

## GROWTH

These plants do not like change and will drop leaves when moved around the house or introduced to the home for the first time. They will recover and grow new leaves once they settle into their new location.

## GROWING OUTSIDE

These are great plants to move outdoors in the summertime. To do this, slowly acclimate the plant to the outdoors gradually, increasing the time spent outdoors a couple hours at a time, until you have reached a full 8 hours.

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# BOTANY