

PILEA CARE GUIDE



Pilea

Pilea peperomioides

Pileas are a great start for any beginning plant parents. With over 600 species, they are a great fit for any home.

WATER

While able to tolerate dryer soil, pileas do not like to be dry for too long. Watering should happen once the first few inches of soil are completely dry or when you notice the leaves drooping.

PLACEMENT AND TEMPERATURE

Pileas can handle temperatures above 50°F, but are happiest in room temperature areas, around 65-75°F. Areas around vents or drafty windows should be avoided, as the temperature difference and dry air may cause leaf drop.

FERTILIZER

We recommend fertilizing with a liquid houseplant fertilizer diluted to half strength during the growing season in spring and summer.

LIGHT

Pileas prefer medium to bright indirect light. While able to adapt to lower light conditions, this may result in them becoming leggy in search for more light. Direct light should be avoided, as this can cause the leaves to burn. Naturally pilea will grow towards a light source, so turning it every now and then is recommended to prevent it from leaning too far.

ADDITIONAL CARE

Pileas, while not requiring a large amount of humidity, do enjoy it. All pileas have a tendency to stretch and become “leggy”. A way of preventing this is to pinch off leaves on branching varieties, but this is only a temporary fix. They are also prone to having brittle stems, so one should take care when moving or pruning to avoid breakage.

BOTANY