Calathea

The native to Brazil Calathea has puckered ribbed leaves that have maroon undersides. During the night the leaves closes up.

Sunlight: The plant thrives in bright to light-shaded areas without direct afternoon sun to prevent leaf burn. It can tolerate some morning or evening sun but should generally be kept out of direct sunlight.

Water: Keep the soil consistently moist. Use distilled or rainwater, as Calathea is sensitive to fluoride and other chemicals commonly found in tap water.

Humidity: Calathea needs a humid environment. Regularly misting the plant will increase humidity and help keep its leaves free of dust.

Temperature: It prefers a consistent room temperature between 21-29°C year-round and requires a minimum of 15°C during winter.

Feed: Feed the plant monthly during spring and summer with water-soluble fertilizer at half strength. In autumn and winter, reduce feeding to every six to eight weeks. If new leaves appear lighter in colour, they may lack nitrogen or iron; using a foliar spray with these nutrients can help.

Repotting: Use regular potting mix, keeping it evenly moist but not waterlogged. Allow the soil surface to dry slightly between waterings, but do not let it dry out completely to avoid root rot.

Top Tip: It can be propagated in spring by division.





