

The Gardener's Resource
Since 1943



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Dracaena Varieties

Dracaena's are distinctive, sword-shaped leafed plants that are easy care which makes them a nearly perfect houseplant. They grow in our rainforests and thrive best in hot climates. So, one of the key factors is to avoid cold areas in our homes to take care of them properly. The *Dracaena deremensis*, *fragrans* and *marginata* species are the common ones found in homes and offices.

Light: All Dracaenas' prefer medium light, but can survive in lower light situations. The only drawn backs are that the plant will grow slower and new leaves are narrower and the color of the leaves tend to fade.

Water: The top 50-75% of the soil needs to dry out before watering.

They can survive under-watering, but quickly die from over-watering. Brown tips or yellowing of the leaves will be an indication of over-watering or too much fluoride or salt in the water.

If your water contains fluoride or chlorine, allow it to sit out over-night so the fluoride can dissipate before using.



Fertilizing: Feed monthly in the spring and summer with a basic plant food at $\frac{1}{2}$ the recommended strength. A Dracaena should only be fed once during the fall and never in the winter.

TIPS: Dracaenas can grow 2 to 10 feet tall, but the top can be trimmed to keep the plant shorter and bushier, if desired.

Controlling the height of a Dracaena is as simple as lopping off its head and within weeks after the old top growth is removed, a pair of new shoots will appear to take its place.