

Spider Plant

The spider plant (*Chlorophytum*) is one of the most common houseplants. This easy-to-grow houseplant makes an excellent choice for hanging baskets. Long wiry stems appear on healthy plants with many small white flowers and miniature plantlets. If these new plantlets touch soil, they will root. The plantlets can be either detached to produce new plants, or left on to create a very full basket

Spider plants grow quickly to 2 to 2½ feet wide and 2 to 3 feet long when grown in a hanging basket.

Spider plants grow best with bright indirect light

Spider plants should dry out briefly between waterings. Check their soil daily. A general-purpose potting soil is suitable for spider plants. Feed plants during periods of active growth with a water-soluble or a time release houseplant fertilizer. Follow the label recommendations.

Spider plants are a good choice for brightly lit kitchens and bathroom; the plants enjoy the higher humidity.

Temperatures between 65 and 75 °F during the day and 50 to 55 °F at night are ideal. Move spider plants a few feet from windows to protect them from drafts during the winter.

Spider plants form thick, fleshy tuberous roots. Divide and repot plants before the roots expand enough to crack the container. They can be repotted at any season. Wait four to six months before feeding newly potted plants.

Spider plants produce most of their offshoots when the days shorten in the fall. You can start new plants at any season from the plantlets. Detach them once roots have formed and pot directly into moist growing mix.