

Schefflera

General Comments

The Schefflera is a familiar, trouble free, leafy houseplant that will live for years indoors. It's sometimes known as the Australian umbrella tree because the glossy foot-long leaflets form umbrella-shaped rosettes 2 feet across.

Temperature

In order to grow, Scheffleras need warmth, with nights in the high 60's and days ten degrees or so warmer. They're best in bright light but they'll tolerate sunlight if they're provided with enough moisture.

Water

Let the soil dry out a bit between thorough waterings.

Fertilizer

Feed every 6 months.

Repotting

They can be repotted at any time of the year in commercial potting soil. If you would rather that your plant didn't grow, keep it cooler, drier, and a little pot-bound.

Additional Comments

A relative newcomer on the scene is the so-called dwarf Schefflera. Among growers it is known as *Schefflera arboricola*, but it is still so new that it isn't listed in standard reference books, nor has its actual identity been established. Its leaves are composed of very smooth, small, oval leaflets and its habit of growth is restrained and exceedingly attractive. Care for it is the same as other Scheffleras.