

Areca palm *Chrysalidocarpus lutescens*

Fact sheet



LIGHT ☀️ ☀️ ☀️ ☀️ ☀️ **bright, no midday sun**

Very bright, but out of harsh summer sun – close to a window with morning or evening sun, or a curtained sunny one. Closer to the window in winter.



WATER 💧 💧 💧 💧 💧 **plenty**

Water as soon as the surface is dry – as a rule of thumb once or twice a week in summer. Never let it dry out, never leave it standing in water. A little less in winter.



HUMIDITY 💧 💧 💧 💧 💧 **high**

Likes high humidity. With heated air a tray of damp gravel helps – dry air attracts spider mites.



TEMPERATURE

18–29 °C, never below 13 °C in winter. Away from cold draughts.



SOIL

Peat-free houseplant soil or multipurpose compost, open and rich in organic matter.



FEEDING

Spring to early autumn about once a month with weak liquid fertiliser – it's sensitive to salt. None in winter.



REPOTTING 🪴 est. 9 cm → 30 cm

Every 2–3 years in spring, carefully. In the years in between, renew the top layer of soil.



HEIGHT ↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ **up to approx. 2 m tall, est. 1 m wide · bushy**

GROWTH 🌱 🌱 🌱 🌱 🌱 **medium**



TOXICITY

👤 **Humans: mildly toxic**

🐱 **Cats: mildly toxic** 🐶 **Dogs: mildly toxic**

	TOO LITTLE	TOO MUCH
Water	 Brown, dry leaf tips, fronds turn yellow. → Water thoroughly until water runs out at the bottom, pour off the excess. From now on, check as soon as the surface is dry.	 Fronds turn brown, the roots rot. → Water less often, empty the cachepot. If it's rotting, repot in fresh, porous soil.
Light		 Fronds turn yellowish or get scorched. → Move it out of the harsh midday sun or draw a net curtain.
Fertiliser	 New fronds stay small and turn pale yellow, often between green veins. → From spring to early autumn feed monthly at low strength, with trace elements such as iron.	 Frond tips die back brown. → Flush the soil thoroughly, then feed less.
Warmth	 Reddish-brown, dead patches on the fronds – often after a draught or a cold spell. → Move it somewhere warmer, never below 13 °C, away from draughts. Cut off damaged fronds.	



WHAT IT DOES FOR YOU

Brings a tropical feel into the room. It doesn't measurably clean the air, but it's beautiful anyway.



CAUTION

Sources differ: the ASPCA lists it as non-toxic for cats and dogs, NC State rates it low in toxicity (nausea, vomiting), and the palm heart is cyanogenic. Don't let pets or children chew on it.