Houseplant How To:

The Greening of Your Thumb

Presented by

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General Info

• Introduction
• Schedule
  – Today's plan
• Restrooms
• Book Sales & Donations
Why Houseplants?

- Houseplants look good
- Cleaning, Filtering and Air Improvement
- Psychological Value
- House Plants *are* really good for you
- We Just Like them
Is your house where plants go to die?

- What would you like to learn about houseplants today?
Know Your Plant (KYP)

• Know where the plant lived in nature.
  – Forest
  – Arid
  – Tropical
A Good Plant Home (KYS)

- Soil
- Light
- Water
- Ventilation
- Food
- Containers
Soil/Planting Mix

- Lush leafy plants
- Succulents
Light
Read the plant label

• Full Sun
  – West Window

• Part Shade
  – East Window

• Artificial Light
  – Grow Lights
  – Incandescent light
Watering

• Lush leafy plants
• Succulents
• Over watering
• Under watering
Ventilation

• Very sensitive to cold or hot drafts
  – Do not place near vents
  – Do not place near doors that frequently open

• Forced air heating/air conditioning can be very drying to houseplants
Food

• Read the label
• Use the food designated for your plant
Containers

- Determines watering schedule
- Drainage hole
- Plastic
- Clay
- Ceramic
How to Propagate

• Seeds
  – Take a long time
  – Could be difficult

• Leaves
  – Easy to do
  – Not as long as seeds

• Cuttings
  – Fastest
  – Easiest

• Division
  – Easy
  – Revives overgrown plants
Diseases

- Powdery Mildew
- Mold
- Leaf Spot
- Root Rot
Pests

- Mealy bugs
- Spider mites
- Scale
Temporary Houseplants

• Before night time temperatures reach 45°
• Check for unwanted pests
• Acclimate for inside temperatures
• Watering
• Consider cleaning windows
Toxic Plants

- Philodendron
- Pothos
- Arrowhead Lily
- Peace Lily
- Dieffenbachia
- Caladium
- Mother-in-Law’s Tongue (Sansevieria)
- Ivy
Houseplant That Clean the Air

- NASA recommends at least 15 plants in the average home.

- Pothos Ivy
- Philodendron
- English Ivy
- Peace Lily
- Weeping Fig
- Rubber Plant

- Boston Fern
- Parlor Palm
- Sansevieria
- Spider Plant
- Aloe Vera
- Gerbera Daisy
Succulents
Ferns
Palms
African Violets
Crotons & Ficus
Dieffenbachia
Air Plants (Tillandsia)
Schlumbergera & Rhipsalidopsis
Poinsettias
How to Display Houseplants
References and Resources

- Ourhouseplants.com
- The Internet .edu