



Caring for Carnivorous Plants

Carnivorous plants are unique species that capture and digest insects to obtain nutrients that are scarce in their native, low-nutrient soils. Examples include Venus flytrap, and pitcher plant. They rely on specialized leaf structures to trap prey and absorb nutrients through digestion.

Plant Care Guide: Carnivorous Plants

Light

- Require at least 4–6 hours of direct sunlight daily.
- Indoors, use a bright south window or grow light.

Water

- Use **distilled**, rain, or reverse osmosis water only—tap water will harm them.
- Keep soil consistently moist (*never let it dry out*).
- For Venus flytraps set the pot in a shallow tray of water (1–2 cm deep).

Soil

- Use a peat moss and perlite mix—never potting soil or compost.
- Avoid fertilizers; these plants get nutrients from insects.

Humidity

- Prefer high humidity (50–70%)—use a humidity tray or mist occasionally in dry indoor air.

Temperature

- Most thrive between **20–30°C (68–86°F)** in summer.
- Venus flytraps and temperate pitcher plants require a winter dormancy around 5°C (40°F)—move to a cool window or unheated space for 3–4 months.

Common Issues

- **Traps not closing** → Low light or poor health.
- **Black leaves** → Normal aging or dormancy starting.

