

Boston fern

Nephrolepis exaltata

Fact sheet



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

Bright without direct midday sun, e.g. at a shady window or one with morning sun. Never in harsh midday or afternoon sun.



WATER 💧 💧 💧 💧 💧 **plenty**

Keep the soil evenly, slightly moist, never let it dry out completely – as a rule of thumb, check as soon as the surface starts to dry. Soft water, a little more sparingly in winter, no waterlogging.



HUMIDITY 💧 💧 💧 💧 💧 **high**

Needs high humidity – a tray of wet gravel, a bright bathroom or the kitchen.



TEMPERATURE

16–24 °C, a little cooler at night is welcome, but not below 10 °C.



SOIL

Peat-free multipurpose compost that drains quickly – ideally in a hanging basket.



FEEDING

Spring to early autumn once a month with foliage plant fertiliser at half strength, hardly any in winter.



REPOTTING 🪴 10.5 → 30 cm

Every few years in spring, once the pot is full – divide it at the same time.



SHOOT LENGTH



up to approx. 90 cm long,
90 cm wide
• trailing

GROWTH



fast



TOXICITY

🧑 Humans: non-toxic 🐱 Cats: non-toxic

🐶 Dogs: non-toxic

	TOO LITTLE	TOO MUCH
Water	 Fronds drop, the plant turns grayish and grows slowly. → Water until the soil is evenly moist again, pour off the excess. Cut dried-up fronds off near the soil – new ones grow back.	 Fronds and roots rot, the soil stays wet. → Water less until the soil is just moist, not wet. Cut off rotten fronds, water more sparingly in winter.
Light	 Fronds grow long, weak and drooping, and there are fewer of them. → Move it somewhere brighter, e.g. to a shady window or one with morning sun.	 Fronds turn pale or light green, and scorch in direct sun. → Move it out of direct sun, cut scorched fronds off near the soil.
Fertiliser		 Fronds turn brown and dry from the tips. → Flush the soil thoroughly, afterwards feed only at half strength.
Warmth	 Fronds are damaged by cold nights at the window or on the balcony – it is frost-tender. → Move it somewhere warmer, not below 10 °C. Cut damaged fronds off near the soil.	



WHAT IT DOES FOR YOU

Its arching fronds make any hanging basket an eye-catcher, and it's non-toxic for children, cats and dogs. It doesn't measurably clean the air.



CAUTION

Not toxic. If anything, things get difficult for the fern: it answers dry, heated air and dried-out soil with brown fronds.