

Dieffenbachia *Dieffenbachia seguine*

Fact sheet



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

Bright without direct sun, a little sun is fine in winter. In low light it grows slowly and goes bare.



WATER 💧 💧 💧 💧 💧 **moderate**

Water when the top 2–3 cm are dry – as a rule of thumb about once a week in summer, in winter just keep it slightly moist. No waterlogging.



HUMIDITY 💧 💧 💧 💧 💧 **high**

Likes high humidity. In winter, group it with other plants or use a tray of damp gravel.



TEMPERATURE

18–24 °C, not below 15 °C. No draughts, no sudden temperature changes.



SOIL

Loose, free-draining houseplant soil with some perlite.



FEEDING

Early spring to early autumn every 2–4 weeks with foliage plant fertiliser at half strength, none in winter.



REPOTTING 🪴 14 cm → est. 30 cm

When needed in early spring – as a rule of thumb every 2–3 years. Wear gloves.



HEIGHT ↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ ↑ up to approx. 1.5 m tall, 90 cm wide · upright

GROWTH 🌱 🌱 🌱 🌱 🌱 fast



TOXICITY

👤 Humans: highly toxic 🐱 Cats: highly toxic

🐶 Dogs: highly toxic

👉 Sap irritates the skin

	TOO LITTLE	TOO MUCH
Water	 Leaf edges and tips turn brown and dry. → Water thoroughly, then do the finger test more often.	 Lower leaves turn yellow and drop, the stem goes soft at the base and rots. → Water less often, empty the cachepot. If the stem is rotten, save healthy shoot tips as cuttings.
Light	 Long, bare stems, lower leaves drop, the pattern fades. → Move it somewhere brighter, but out of the midday sun. Cut back bare stems.	 Leaves turn pale, yellow or discoloured. → Take it out of direct sun, give it a bright, shaded spot.
Fertiliser	 Leaves turn yellowish and smaller, the plant hardly grows. → From early spring to early autumn feed at half strength every 2–4 weeks.	 Brown, scorched leaf edges and tips. → Flush the soil thoroughly, don't feed for a while.
Warmth	 Lower leaves suddenly drop – often after a draught or a sudden drop in temperature. → Move it somewhere warmer and sheltered, not below 15 °C, away from cold windows.	



WHAT IT DOES FOR YOU

Large, patterned leaves that cope with less light too. It doesn't measurably clean the air, but it's beautiful anyway.



CAUTION

Toxic (calcium oxalate): chewing makes the mouth and throat burn and swell, in the worst case the throat can close. Ratings differ (BfR: moderate course, NC State: high severity), so treat it as highly toxic. Not for small children and pets; the sap irritates skin and eyes – wear gloves.