

Hot New Houseplants to get Excited About

Golden Crocodile Philodendron

This houseplant sports super-trendy golden-yellow foliage decorated with deeply toothed



edges. As the new leaves emerge, they have a bronze tint before turning golden yellow. Older leaves may become lime green as they mature.

When it's young, your Golden Crocodile Philodendron can be used to great effect on bright desks, tabletops, or plant stands. It's cute when it's young, but as it matures, it grows into a majestic floor plant that's sure to be a focal point of your plant collection or home

décor.

If you provide it a support (such as a moss pole or totem) on which to climb, your Golden Crocodile can grow as a vine and can eventually start to climb. But it doesn't need to climb and you can enjoy it a lovely self-heading variety. Unsupported, your plant can become more than 3 feet across with leaves to 2 feet long or more over the years.

Care

Like many other variegated houseplants, your Golden Crocodile wants a bright spot to thrive. That means a spot where it casts a moderate to strong shadow for most of the day. Ideally, this may be positioned within 3 feet of an east or west-facing window that receives some morning or afternoon sun. Don't worry if direct sunlight isn't available – you can use grow lights to supplement its needs.

Water your Golden Crocodile Philodendron as the top inch or two of the potting mix starts to dry to the touch. If it stays too wet for too long, the roots will suffocate and die, causing root rot.

Fertilization is optional, but it can encourage faster growth. If you choose to feed your Golden Crocodile, spring and summer are the best times (coinciding with longer days and increased light levels to help power healthy new growth). A general-purpose houseplant fertilizer is sufficient. Remember, less is always more – avoid over-fertilizing as it can damage the roots.