

FERNS as Houseplants

Common Name:

Blue Star or Rabbit's Foot Fern

Botanical Name:

Phlebodium aureum



Light & Temperature needs:

- Indirect bright light, like a bright room but out of direct sunlight.
- Can handle broad range of household temperatures- 50°F to 80°F.

Water:

- Since Blue Star Fern gets nutrients from the air around it, use a quick draining but moisture retaining soil like potting mix with added orchid bark.
- A tip for keeping up humidity: leave this plant in a plastic nursery pot of soil and then place that in a more decorative container. The water will drain out but keep the roots moist.
- Water from the sides of the pot and don't leave it standing in water.

Feeding information and General Care tips:

- Feed like most epiphytes during our spring-summer with fertilizer diluted to half strength. Twice a month from March through September.
- If paired with companions to help encourage more humidity, place it furthest from the window. Place it on a humidity tray too.
- Make sure you keep a spray bottle for regular misting to increase humidity.
- If the plant appears tired, brittle, and dry; check the drainage and make sure the soil is moist without being waterlogged.
- If your Blue Star fern dries out, water it and trim off damaged and unsightly leaves.

Best location in home:

- Blue star makes a dramatic hanging plant.
- Loves a cooler bright room.

Example of how to enjoy it:

- Place your Blue Star Fern where you will remember to check the soil moisture at least a couple times a week.
- If put along the back wall of a white room with southern windows, Blue Star will get bright light but soften the room's darker edges.