

HOW TO CARE FOR DRACAENA MARGINATA

Dracaena Marginata or more commonly known as dragon tree is native to Madagascar. It is resilient, easy to care for and drought-tolerant plant that requires minimum care. Its spiky appearance combined with green sword-like and red border leaves stand out among houseplants. It can be planted year round and usually grown indoors as potted houseplant that needs to be pruned to maintain its height of about 6 feet or less. Keep your beloved pets away from this plant as it may be toxic if ingested.



Planting Procedure:

Step 1: Plant Dracaena Marginata

A. Purchase a packet of seeds from garden centre or take large cuttings from tips or cane. Both methods will yield beautiful dracaena marginata plant if proper care and attention will be given.

B. Select a suitable size for the pot. Choose a container pot that is not too large to keep the roots more compact to facilitate healthy growth of the plant. Well-draining pot that has holes is preferable to prevent root rot.

C. Fill the pot with standard or all-purposed potting soil just below the rim of the pot.

D. Move the plant to the soil. If you're potting a whole plant, pile that soil up around the canes for support. If you're using starter seeds, cover them with a thin layer of soil but would take normally 30-40 days for the plant to sprout.



Step 2: Choose a Suitable Environment

- A. Dracaena Marginata thrives in indirect sunlight. It can be placed under window or in a shaded spot. If exposed in direct sunlight, the leaves may get scorched.
- B. Maintain temperature range between 18-24°C and humidity levels of 30-40% for optimum growth.
- C. Place the potted plant in a central location in your home preferably living room or kitchen as it is an effective air purifier that can remove compounds like xylene, formaldehyde and benzene.

Step 3: Dracaena Marginata Care Tips

- A. Once a week watering using a spray bottle to maintain soil moisture.
- B. Use fertilizers minimally. It does not require fertilizer as the plant is quite resilient.
- C. Wipe the leaves with a damp cloth to get rid of pests and dust and retain the leaves fresh appearance.
- D. Remove damaged and withered leaves by hand to encourage new foliage to grow.

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