

## Care Guide for Croton

Scientific name: *Codiaeum variegatum*

Generated on 8/29/2025

### Watering

Frequency: Water when the top inch of soil is dry, about once a week.

Amount: Water thoroughly until it drains out the bottom.

Seasonal Notes: Water less frequently in the winter when growth slows.

### Light Requirements

Ideal: Bright, direct sunlight for at least 6 hours per day.

Tolerates: Can tolerate some partial shade, but will lose color and become leggy.

### Temperature & Humidity

Optimal: 65-80°F

Minimum: 60°F

Humidity: High humidity is preferred. Mist the leaves regularly or use a pebble tray.

### Soil Requirements

Type: Well-draining potting mix or cactus/succulent soil.

PH: 5.5-6.5

Drainage: Excellent drainage is essential to prevent root rot.

### Fertilizing

Schedule: Fertilize monthly during the growing season with a balanced liquid fertilizer.

Type: Use a balanced, water-soluble fertilizer diluted to half strength.

### Maintenance

Pruning: Prune lightly to remove dead or damaged leaves and maintain shape as needed.

Repotting: Repot in spring every 2-3 years as the plant outgrows its container.

## 🌿 Common Problems & Solutions

**Problem:** Leaves turning yellow or dropping

**Solution:** Check for overwatering, underwatering, or lack of humidity. Adjust as needed.

**Problem:** Pests like spider mites or mealybugs

**Solution:** Treat with insecticidal soap or neem oil, and keep the plant clean.

**Problem:** Leaf scorch or curling

**Solution:** Provide more shade or increase humidity levels.

## 🌿 Pro Tips

- Propagate by taking stem cuttings and rooting them in well-draining soil.
- Wipe leaves down regularly to remove dust and maintain their shiny appearance.
- Crotons are sensitive to environmental changes, so avoid moving them frequently.