



# HOME & GARDEN

Home and Garden information center • 12005 Homewood Road • Ellicott City, MD 21042 • 1-800-342-2507

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## Seasonal and Indoor Plant Tips

### Culture

- This is a good time to root stem and leaf cuttings and to re-pot plants that are out-growing their containers. Re-pot into clean containers and be sure to wash out any fertilizer salt residues. Use lightweight, well-drained soil less potting mixes that contain peat moss, vermiculite and/or perlite.
- Begin fertilizing houseplants now that they are actively growing.
- Monitor houseplants that are outside for insect problems. Hose them down regularly if you notice spider mite feeding.
- If you want to take your houseplants outdoors, keep houseplants out of full-sun locations until they are fully acclimated to outdoor conditions.
- Houseplants can be combined with flowering annuals in container plantings.
- Most houseplants should be watered only when the top of the growing medium begins to dry out.
- Badly diseased or infested plants should simply be cut back and the damaged portions thrown out.

### Insects

- Fungus gnats are small, black insects that hover around plants. Prevent this problem by allowing your growing media to dry out between watering.

**Have a pest or gardening question?**  
**Call the Home and Garden Information Center**  
**800-342-2507 [www.hgic.umd.edu](http://www.hgic.umd.edu)**

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