

## 30 Common Houseplants That Are Toxic to Pets ⚠️

Certain plants can make your pets sick. Especially your curious indoor cats, who tend to gravitate toward anything green. Over 700 indoor/outdoor plants contain toxic substances that are not safe for your dog or cat. Here's a list of the most common toxic houseplants that you should avoid or keep out of reach if you have pets:

For a full list of toxic plants for your cats, dogs, and horses - Please visit the ASPCA's Toxic and Non-Toxic Plant List:

<https://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control/toxic-and-non-toxic-plants>



**Alocasia:** Otherwise known as Elephant's Ear, this plant can irritate or burn the mouth, lips or tongue of cats and dogs. Other symptoms include vomiting and drooling.

**Aloe:** Aloe is poisonous to both dogs and cats, causing vomiting, diarrhea, and other symptoms.

**Amaryllis:** These pretty flowers cause symptoms like stomach pain, drooling, tremors, diarrhea, and vomiting in cats and dogs when ingested.

**Arrow-Head Vine:** This is a common bedding plant in larger planters, but it contains insoluble calcium oxalates, which cause burning of the mouth, tongue, and lips along with drooling and vomiting in pets.

**Asparagus Fern:** These plants contain sapogenins, which is a compound that can cause dermatitis in dogs and cats. The berries are poisonous to your pets, causing diarrhea, vomiting, and stomach pain.

**Azalea:** While these shrubs are mostly used outdoors, azaleas are sometimes used to create miniature bonsai trees indoors. However, the grayanotoxin in azaleas is highly toxic to dogs, cats, and other animals. It can cause a wide variety of symptoms, from vomiting and diarrhea to a coma.

**Bay Laurel:** If you are fond of growing herbs and spices indoors, watch out! Bay leaves cause vomiting, diarrhea, and sometimes bowel obstruction in pets.

**Begonia:** This is another houseplant containing oxalates, which causes severe oral irritation in dogs and cats.

**Caladium:** Here is another plant that contains oxalates, which cause oral irritation, vomiting and drooling when ingested.

**Cardboard Palm:** Some palm trees and shrubs are pet friendly and others are not. This is one that you should avoid because the cycasin in these plants can cause several serious issues such as hemorrhagic gastroenteritis or liver failure.

**Clivia:** This is a beautiful flowering plant similar to amaryllis, but the alkaloids it contains can cause symptoms ranging from vomiting and diarrhea to low blood pressure and arrhythmia in both dogs and cats.

**Chrysanthemum:** You may be tempted to move your gorgeous potted mums indoors when the weather gets colder, but they're toxic to cats, dogs (and horses) when ingested. Signs of poisoning include vomiting, diarrhea, hyper-salivation, loss of coordination, and dermatitis.

**Dieffenbachia:** All varieties of dieffenbachia are unsafe for dogs and cats. Toxic oxalates and proteolytic enzymes cause oral burns, drooling, and vomiting.

**Dracaena:** Dracaena contains saponins, which cause vomiting, excessive drooling and other symptoms. In cats, this plant can also cause dilated pupils.

**Easter Lily:** While normally grown outside, this plant is sometimes given as a springtime gift. Its toxic mechanisms are unknown, but in cats, Easter lilies cause vomiting, or in severe cases, kidney failure.

**English Ivy:** This is a popular bedding plant in planters, but the leaves, in particular, are toxic. Dogs and cats will experience stomach pain, drooling, vomiting and diarrhea due to saponins.

**Geranium:** These lovely flowers are common both outdoors and as house plants, but two chemicals that they contain, geraniol and linalool, can cause dermatitis, vomiting and anorexia in dogs and cats.

FLIP OVER ➡

*Moscarillo's*  
garden • floral • landscape

**Geranium:** These lovely flowers are common both outdoors and as house plants, but two chemicals that they contain, geraniol and linalool, can cause dermatitis, vomiting and anorexia in dogs and cats.

**Hyacinth:** This is another popular gift in the spring. Hyacinths are known to be toxic to dogs and cats, causing tremors, severe vomiting and diarrhea in which blood is sometimes present. It is thought that this is caused by alkaloids throughout the plant, but particularly in the bulbs.

**Indian Rubber Plant:** This small indoor tree contains ficin and ficusin, which causes a loss of coordination, vomiting, dermatitis and oral irritation.  
**Jade Plant:** It is unknown why these plants are toxic to dogs and cats, but when ingested, they cause nausea and vomiting.

**Kalanchoe:** These plants have beautiful flowers, but they also contain bufadienolides, which cause gastrointestinal symptoms like vomiting and diarrhea in pets. Rarely, pets experience arrhythmia.

**Lantana:** The foliage of this plant is poisonous to many animals — not just dogs and cats, but livestock as well. Pentacyclic triterpenoids in the leaves cause labored breathing, weakness, and sometimes vomiting and diarrhea. In severe cases, liver failure can happen.

**Mauna Loa Peace Lily (also known as Peace Lily):** If ingested, calcium oxalates in this plant cause cats to suffer oral symptoms: burning, drooling, difficulty swallowing, and more.

**Tulip and Narcissus:** These are common springtime bulbs that people love to give as gifts. The bulbs are poisonous, causing oral irritation, stomach pain, nausea, vomiting, and potential liver damage in pets.

**Philodendron:** All varieties of philodendron contain oxalate crystals, which burns the mouths of dogs and cats and can also cause excess salivation or trouble swallowing.

**Pothos:** All varieties of this plant contain oxalate, which causes oral irritation and other symptoms.

**Poinsettia:** Another holiday plant not worth having around if you've got pets. While ingesting poinsettia isn't normally deadly to pets, it can cause irritation in the mouth or stomach, which leads to vomiting and diarrhea.

**Sago Palm:** Sago palms contain cycasin, which causes gastroenteritis, vomiting, and other symptoms. In severe cases, a pet that eats sago palm could suffer liver damage or even liver failure.

**Snake Plant:** Because they contain saponins, snake plants cause nausea, diarrhea, and vomiting in pets.

## CONTINUED

We've listed some of the most common toxic houseplants here, but before you bring any plant into your home, make sure that you **check with your vet** or online at the ASPCA website to see if it is pet-safe!



To download a full PDF version of this list on your phone, scan in this QRC Code to be directed to our resources page online!

[www.moscarillos.com/resources](http://www.moscarillos.com/resources)



Source: Farmer's Almanac, Updated 03.25.2021





## 21 Plants That Are Safe for Cats and Dogs 👍

We've listed some of the most common safe houseplants here, but before you bring any plant into your home, make sure that you **check with your vet** or online at the ASPCA website to see if it is pet-safe!

For a full list of safe plants for your cats, dogs, and horses - Please visit the ASPCA's Toxic and Non-Toxic Plant List:

<https://www.aspc.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control/toxic-and-non-toxic-plant>

**Rattlesnake Plant** - The colors, distinctly shaped leaves, and easy watering schedule make the rattlesnake plant (a.k.a. *Calathea lancifolia*) a great addition to a low-light living room.

**Spider Plant** - A favorite among veterinarians, this plant is easy to grow indoors and incredibly resilient. Spider plants are also great air-purifiers, so they can help get rid of your home's toxins.

**Parlor Palm** - Stick one on a credenza or nightstand that's not too close to a window, as this palm needs only a few hours of indirect light a day.

**Calathea Orbifolia** - This houseplant needs partial shade, which makes it perfect for a plant stand or a shelf in a bedroom that doesn't get much natural light.

**Ponytail Palm** - The ponytail palm, a.k.a. *Beaucarnea recurvata*, has so much character your pet might want to befriend it. Or swat at its draping fronds.

**(Certain) Succulents** - Add some pet-friendly succulents, like this *Haworthia*, *Echeveria*, or a group of air plants, to your countertop and you're golden.

**African Violet** - If you've got open shelving in your kitchen, these flowers would be a great, colorful addition. (Just make sure the plant isn't near a drafty floor vent or window.) With indirect sunlight, they will bloom beautifully.

**Bird's Nest Fern** - This squiggly green fern thrives on the low light and varying humidity conditions that characterize bathrooms. Your teeth-brushing routine just got so much prettier.

**Gloxinia** - Find a sunny window and these flowers (native to Brazil) will blossom in bright shades of purple, pink, red, or blue. Keep the soil moist and feed these blooms liquid plant food every two weeks for maximum health.

**Venus Flytrap** - Not only is this plant pet-friendly, it's also super low maintenance. Keep your Venus flytrap thriving by placing it somewhere that gets at least four hours of direct sunlight and watering it with distilled water. As far as soil is concerned, opt for peat moss or sphagnum moss. Placing it on a porch is ideal, as it can feed itself with passerby flies. It needs only one to two insects per month to sustain itself.



**Boston Fern** - The beautiful Boston fern is also on the lower end of the maintenance spectrum since it requires food only every two months. Your kitty can bat at the ferns all he wants and your puppy can even take a bite—this plant is safe for cats and dogs.

**Polka Dot Plant** - This striking plant grows up to three feet tall outdoors in its native Madagascar. In a pot inside your home, however, the spotted beauty grows to only about 10 inches tall.

**Watermelon Peperomia** - The Watermelon peperomia prefers to be kept out of direct sunlight and don't need a ton of watering to stay happy. The peperomia is a favorite in our greenhouse and among our customers.

**Orchid** - Few plants lend as elegant an air as an orchid. Luckily, you can add one to your home without posing a threat to your pooch. With proper care, orchids can last up to four months. They do best in partial light. Water once a week during the winter, and twice a week in hotter months.


**Staghorn Fern** - This fern has two different kinds of fronds and grows wild in Australia. The pet-friendly plant can be potted, mounted on a wall, or hung in a basket. The staghorn fern will do well in any room with bright or indirect light but never in a dark room. Depending on the weather and humidity, you can water it every one to three weeks. The more humidity, the less you need to water it. If you place it in a bathroom, then, you'll need to water and mist it only every three weeks.

**Bromeliad** - If you want bring a tropical vibe to your space, look no further than a bright bromeliad. Bromeliads, which have blooms that can last up to a few months, will liven up any room you put them in. They need plenty of air flow, so we suggest an open area with windows and indirect sunlight, such as a living room, kitchen, or bedroom.

FLIP OVER ➡

Source: <https://www.architecturaldigest.com/story/pet-friendly-houseplants>

*Moscarillo's*  
garden • floral • landscape



**Baby Tears** - This plant's dripping tendrils were practically designed to attract cats. Even if you place this high up in an indoor hanging basket, your clever kitty just may find a way to get to it. But don't worry—it can't hurt him. In addition to being a pet-friendly plant, this is also a good choice for beginner green thumbs. Choose a location with filtered light and keep the soil moist. If this plant gets thirsty, it will start wilting immediately. Water at any sign of thirst!

**Friendship Plant** - The friendship plant boasts intricately patterned leaves that are soft to the touch and harmless to your pets. The small plant grows 6–12 inches high, and can survive in low light as long as it gets a few hours of sunlight each day. Occasionally, the plant will flower with pale pink buds.

**Areca Palm** - Want to wow your guests while also protecting your pets? Look no further than an areca palm. Also known as a butterfly palm, it grows up to five feet tall and has big, bold fronds. It will become a focal point in any room you choose to grace with its presence.

**Herbs** - Basil, rosemary, and thyme are great kitchen herbs that are totally safe for your pet to snack on. They love direct light, so leave them to hang out by a window all day long.

**Prayer Plant** - Rounding out our list of plants that are safe for cats and dogs is the prayer plant. With its eye-catching leaves and elegant coloration, you can hardly blame your pet for being curious about its beauty.



To download a full PDF version of this list on your phone, scan in this QRC Code to be directed to our resources page online!

[www.moscarillos.com/resources](http://www.moscarillos.com/resources)

FLIP OVER



*Moscarillo's*  
garden • floral • landscape

Source: <https://www.architecturaldigest.com/story/pet-friendly-houseplants>