



## Venus Flytrap Indoor Care Sheet

This care sheet covers the main consideration to grow healthy Venus flytraps. The instructions are focused on indoor growing conditions. I hope you find them useful. Best of luck growing carnivorous plants!

**Light:** Expose the plant to at least 6 hours of light a day. Optimally, they should receive 12 hours of light. The light source can be sunlight or artificial lighting for indoor locations. Thanks to artificial lighting, you can grow Venus flytraps in almost any home (even basements with no windows). Do not employ standard light bulbs; they produce too much heat and can burn your plant. Instead, employ a plant light to fulfill your plant's lighting requirements. You have two options:

- High output fluorescent lights
- LED plant lights

**Soil:** Do not employ standard potting soil. Instead, make or buy nutrient-free carnivorous plant soil. Only utilize nutrient-free ground for Venus flytraps. Employ a combination of these components to make suitable carnivorous plant soil: long-fibered sphagnum moss, peat moss, silica sand, and perlite. Here are a few commonly used recipes:

- 3 parts peat moss and 1 part perlite
- 2 parts peat moss, 2 parts sphagnum moss, and 1 part sand

**Watering:** Only water with pure water sources, such as rainwater, distilled water, or reverse osmosis water. Water frequently to keep the soil humid at all times but do not flood it.

**Feeding:** Venus flytraps do not need bugs to survive, but access to feed promotes their growth. Outdoors Venus flytraps can capture their own prey. When you grow Venus flytraps indoor, you will have to take care of the feeding. To get you started, here is some basic information about feeding process:

- Feed your Venus flytrap with insects or arachnids only.
- Choose an insect that is small enough to fit inside the trap of your Venus flytrap
- You only need to feed one trap in the whole plant
- Allow for 2-6 weeks between feedings
- Do not feed a Venus flytrap during dormancy
- Avoid feeding the plant when it is sick or adjusting to a new environment.



**Dormancy:** Venus flytraps must undergo dormancy every year. They need to be exposed to temperatures below 45 F to achieve the dormancy state. Indoors, it is impossible to make your Venus flytrap go dormant. So, you must place your plant in a cold location to achieve dormancy. Place your plant in a porch, outside a window, in a cold basement or garage during the winter months.

**Unwanted Stress:** Avoid exerting stress on your plant. Do not trigger the traps with your fingers.

**Pot Characteristics:** The best pots for Venus flytraps are tall, provide good insulation, and they do not leach any components to the ground.

**Trimming:** Black leaves are not harmful to the plant, but you can remove them by cutting them from the base. Never try pulling the leaves; you can rip off the bulb and kill the plant.

**Fertilizers:** Venus flytraps do not need fertilizers. The nutrients in the fertilizer can weaken and ultimately kill the plant. Instead of fertilizing the plant, feed the plant to provide the additional boost.

**Temperature:** Venus flytraps are resilient plants. They can withstand temperatures between 32 F (0 C) and 95 F (35 C).

- Do not place the plant under the scorching heat. Temperatures above 95 F are risky for the plant, as it can dry up completely.
- During the winter, do not let Venus flytrap freeze completely. They can handle the cold, but they shouldn't freeze solid. The plant might not recover.

**Humidity:** A humid environment is optimal for Venus flytraps. Still, these plants can adapt to dry climates. You can mist your plant or place it on top of a plate with water to keep a higher humidity level.

**Flowers:** Venus flytraps produce flowers during the spring. You can let your plant flower or prevent it from flowering and promote the plant's growth. Cut the flower stalks as soon as you spot them, and the plant will have a lot more energy during the growing season.

**Terrariums:** It is a challenge to grow Venus flytraps in a terrarium as enclosed structures tend to be restrictive. However, it is possible as long as you ensure proper drainage and access to suitable lighting.