

Indoor Low Light

Botanical Name	Common Name	Height	Comments
<i>Aglonema</i> spp.	Chinese evergreen	1-2'	Several species and many cultivars with green/silver variegated leaf patterns.
<i>Aspidistra elatior</i>	cast iron plant	1-2'	Tough in every way; also variegated.
<i>Beaucarnea recurvata</i>	ponytail palm	1-6'	Will grow in all light conditions, but grows very slowly.
<i>Chamaedorea elegans</i> 'Bella'	parlor palm	1'-2'	Can grow to 5 or 6'; best low light palm; prone to spider mites.
<i>Dracaena deremensis</i> 'Janet Craig'	Janet Craig dracaena	2-6'	Similar to cornstalk, but solid green foliage; 'Warneckii' is also popular.
<i>Dracaena fragrans</i> 'Massengeana'	cornstalk plant	2-6' or more	Intolerant of cold; yellow stripe on foliage.
<i>Epipremnum aureum</i>	pothos	1-4' or more	Vining plant that can trail or grow up supports.
<i>Philodendron scandens oxycardium</i>	heart-leafed philodendron	1-3' or more	Vining plant that can trail or grow up supports.
<i>Philodendron selloum</i>	selloum philodendron	1-4'	Also called lacy tree philodendron.
<i>Sansevieria</i> spp.	snake plant	6"-4'	Succulent, leathery leaves.
<i>Spathyphyllum</i> spp.	peace lily	1-3'	Also called spathe flower; blooms best in east light.
<i>Syngonium</i> spp.	arrowhead vine	1-3'	Grows best on support, or cut back often to prevent rank growth.
<i>Zamioculcas zamiifolia</i>	zz plant	1-3'	Succulent leaves; rots easily when overwatered; prefers east-facing window.

Low light is not the same as *no* light. You should be able to read a book by the natural light or see a shadow if your hand passes over the area. Artificial light is ok if your desire is for plant maintenance, not growth.

Compiled by Jean Back, Douglas County Master Gardener. Jean has been a MG since 2005, and along with other Master Gardeners, teaches and works at a variety of Douglas County community projects, including Let's Get Growing, Community Ed Classes, and Terrace Learning Garden.



Chinese evergreens can grow indoors with no direct light, as shown on this inside wall at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum.



Peace lily tolerates low light but likes moist soil. It wilts quickly when water is needed.