



Choosing Pot and Soil for Indoor Plants - Mini-Brochure

Landscape, print-friendly (ASCII-only)

A compact, printable overview to pick the right pot and soil for healthy growth. Start with the checklist, then match your plant type to a soil recipe.

- Plant type and size (root system, woody or soft).
- Bright or low light room (affects drying speed).
- Watering style: frequent sips or deep/less often.
- Drainage: pot with holes and a saucer.
- Material: terracotta breathes; plastic retains moisture.
- Pot size: usually 1 size up when repotting.
- Soil structure: airy for roots, drains but holds moisture.

Pot material	Pros	Cons	Best for
Terracotta	Breathes; dries faster; roots get oxygen	Dries fast; heavy; salts on rim	Succulents, cacti, plants prone to rot
Ceramic (glazed)	Holds moisture longer; decorative	Heavier; may lack drainage	Most tropicals if watering is moderate
Plastic	Lightweight; retains moisture; cheap	Less breathable; can overwater	Low-light rooms; thirsty plants
Fabric/grow bags	Air-prunes roots; good aeration	Dries fast; needs tray	Fast growers; balcony/seasonal use
Metal	Thin walls; modern look	Heats/cools quickly; corrosion	As cachepot with inner nursery pot
Wood	Natural look; insulates roots	Can rot; needs liner	Orchids, outdoor planters under cover

Article: cveti-doma.ru/en/how-to-choose-pot-and-soil-for-plants/
CD style. ASCII-only. A4 landscape; 16 mm margins; header 18 mm.

Repot only 1 size up (about 2 to 5 cm wider).

Keep crown at soil level; do not bury stems.

Always use a pot with drainage holes; use a saucer.

Cachepot? Keep plant in inner nursery pot with holes.

Fast growers may need upsizing every 12 to 18 months.

Plant group	Simple soil recipe (by volume)	Notes
General tropicals (pothos, philodendron)	2 parts all-purpose potting mix + 1 part perlite + 1 part fine bark	Aim for airy, drains in 5 to 10 sec; water when top 2 to 3 cm are dry
Aroids (monstera, anthurium)	1 part potting mix + 1 part bark + 1 part perlite + 0.5 part coco chips	Support aerial roots; avoid staying soggy
Succulents and cacti	1 part potting mix + 1 part coarse sand + 1 part perlite/pumice	Fast draining; terracotta preferred; water deeply then let dry
Orchids (phalaenopsis)	Medium bark + a little sphagnum for humidity	Use slotted orchid pot; water by soak and drain
Ferns, calathea, prayer plants	2 parts potting mix + 1 part coco or peat-free fiber + 1 part perlite	Even moisture; avoid hard water; higher humidity
Herbs indoors	2 parts potting mix + 1 part perlite	Bright light; avoid waterlogging; terracotta helps

Repot plan worksheet

Plant	Current pot / size	New pot / material	Soil recipe	Action date

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