



Yellow Leaves on Indoor Plants — Troubleshooting Memo

Landscape, compact tables

A compact, printable guide to diagnose yellowing leaves. Match the symptom to likely causes and quick fixes.

Where is yellowing?	Likely cause	Quick check
Old lowest leaves first	Natural aging or light too low	Healthy new growth? Hand shadow test for light
New top leaves first	Nutrient issue or pests	Veins green but tissue pale? Any speckling/webbing?
Between veins (veins green)	Iron or magnesium deficiency; high pH	Soil pH high? Hard tap water?
Random leaves with soft stems	Overwatering or poor drainage	Pot heavy and wet? Smell of rot?
Dry edges and curl	Underwatering or low humidity	Soil very dry? RH below 40 percent?

Article: cveti-doma.ru/en/indoor-flowers-why-do-leaves-turn-yellow/
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Cause	What to check	Fix
Overwatering or poor drainage	Wet, heavy soil; pot without drainage; saucer full of water	Let top 3 cm dry; empty saucers; repot into airy mix; use pot with holes
Underwatering	Very dry mix pulling from pot sides; leaves limp or crispy	Bottom-water or slow soak; set a weekly check reminder
Low light	Weak shadow test; leggy growth	Move closer to east/south window; add grow light 10–12 hours
Nutrient deficiency (N, Mg, Fe)	Pale new growth (Fe); uniform pale (N); interveinal (Mg)	Feed at half strength monthly; for Fe/Mg use chelated iron or Epsom salt as directed
High pH or hard water	White crust on soil; tap water very hard	Use filtered or rain water; flush salts; repot if crust heavy
Cold drafts or heat stress	Near AC vents, radiators, cold windows	Move 1 m away; keep 18–27 C stable
Pests (mites, scale, aphids)	Stippling, webbing, sticky honeydew	Shower leaves; treat with insecticidal soap; repeat weekly 3 times
Rootbound	Roots circling; water runs through fast	Repot up one size; trim dead roots; refresh mix

Plant	Symptom details	Likely cause	Action today	Follow-up date

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