

Spider Plant Care and Pet Safety Checklist

FitInFlow.space · Chlorophytum comosum (Asparagaceae). Based on Kew, University of Wisconsin and Oklahoma State Extension, and the ASPCA. Updated October 2026.

1. Care at a glance

Light	Medium to bright indirect light. No harsh direct sun.
Water	Soak, drain, then let the top inch of soil dry.
Water type	Use rainwater or distilled water if tips keep browning.
Soil and pot	General potting mix. Drainage holes. Keep slightly snug.
Temperature	Cool to average room temperature. Protect from frost.
Feeding	Every 3 to 4 months, or half strength more often. Never in winter.

2. Propagate a plantlet

- ☐ 1. Pick a plantlet with small root nubs at its base
- ☐ 2. Rest it on moist potting mix in a small pot, still attached to the parent
- ☐ 3. Keep the mix lightly moist until it resists a gentle tug (new roots)
- ☐ 4. Snip the runner and care for it as a new plant

3. Problem fixer

Symptom	Check first
Brown tips	Tap water (fluoride, chlorine), salt buildup, dry soil, too much fertilizer, low light
Mushy base	Overwatering or no drainage: let dry, trim soft roots, repot
Pale stripes	Not enough light: move closer to a window
No babies	Too young, too much feeding, not enough light, lights on at night
Sticky or webbed leaves	Mealybugs, scale or spider mites: wipe, rinse, isolate

4. Pet and child safety

The ASPCA lists the spider plant as **non-toxic to cats and dogs**. Chewing any plant can still upset a stomach, so hang it out of reach.

Pet unwell after eating a plant? Call your vet or the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center: **(888) 426-4435**.

Child swallowed soil, fertilizer or a pest spray? US Poison Control: **1-800-222-1222**. Store these products out of reach.

5. 12-week watering log

Week	Date	Soil dry?	Watered?	Fed?	Notes (new babies, brown tips, pests)
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					

About air purification: NASA's 1989 study used sealed chambers. A 2019 review (Cummings and Waring) found houseplants make no practical difference to indoor air in ventilated homes. Grow it for beauty, not air cleaning.