

Pothos Care Card

Epipremnum aureum · golden pothos

Ka'ala Lush Nursery

Grown with aloha · Wai'anae, O'ahu

Quick answer: Pothos (*Epipremnum aureum*) is the easiest houseplant to grow: bright indirect light (it tolerates low light), water when the top half of the soil is dry, and any pot with a drainage hole. It forgives missed waterings, propagates in a glass of water, and tells you what it needs — droopy means thirsty, yellow means too wet.

Light	Bright indirect is ideal; tolerates low light	Growth	Trailing vines to 10 ft indoors; climbs if allowed
Water	When the top half of the soil is dry	Pets	Toxic to cats and dogs if chewed (calcium oxalates)
Soil	Any well-draining potting mix	Difficulty	The best first plant, period
Feeding	Half-strength liquid fertilizer monthly in the growing season	Hawaii note	Keep it potted — outdoors it escapes and climbs trees

Care essentials

How much light does pothos need? Pothos thrives in bright, indirect light but is famously tolerant — it will live in offices, bathrooms, and dim corners where most plants give up. The trade-offs in low light: slower growth, smaller leaves, and fading variegation, since golden and marble varieties need light to paint their patterns.

How often should I water pothos? Water pothos when the top half of the pot's soil has dried out — typically every 7–10 days indoors, faster in bright warm spots. The plant communicates clearly: leaves droop slightly when thirsty and perk up within hours of watering.

How do you propagate pothos in water? Pothos is the gateway drug of plant propagation. Snip the vine into pieces, making sure each piece has at least one leaf and one node (the brown bump on the stem where roots emerge — you can often see nubby aerial roots already).

Why is my pothos turning yellow or getting brown spots? Read the pattern. Several leaves yellowing at once with damp soil is overwatering — the classic pothos complaint — so let it dry out and check drainage.

Can pothos grow outdoors in Hawaii? It can — and that's the problem. Freed from a pot in Hawaii's climate, pothos transforms into a monster liana with leaves the size of dinner plates, climbing high into trees; you've seen it draping the forests along island highways.

Quick FAQ

- **Is pothos toxic to cats and dogs?** Yes — chewing pothos causes mouth irritation, drooling, and vomiting in cats and dogs due to insoluble calcium oxalates. Hang it or shelf it out of reach of pets that chew plants.
- **How long do pothos cuttings take to root in water?** Usually 7–14 days for the first roots in warm, bright conditions. Pot them up once roots are 2–3 inches long — cuttings left in water for months adapt to water and transition to soil less happily.
- **Why is my variegated pothos turning green?** Not enough light. Variegation (the white/gold marbling) fades when the plant compensates for dim conditions with more chlorophyll. Move it brighter and new leaves will show more pattern.

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Plants by appointment in Wai'anae, O'ahu — email kaalalush@gmail.com to arrange a pickup

Just a little 'ohana nursery — mahalo for growing with us!