

# Chessington

## Care & Advice

### Ficus

What is commonly referred to as a ficus is technically a weeping fig. It's a member of the Ficus genus of plants, which also includes rubber trees and fig fruit trees, but when it comes to houseplants, most people refer to a weeping fig (*Ficus benjamina*) as simply a ficus.



Ficus trees can maintain their tree-like shape regardless of their size, so this makes them ideal for bonsais or for massive houseplants in large spaces.



### Care

During spring and summer when your ficus tree is growing, keep the soil moist. In winter, let it dry out slightly between waterings; stick your index finger up to your first knuckle to test for moisture before watering. Make sure the pot has holes in the bottom because no plant likes sitting in water; dump out the saucer beneath the pot if water drains into it. Wash the leaves occasionally with a lukewarm shower or dust with a damp rag.

Indoors, ficus trees like bright, indirect light, according to Clemson Cooperative Extension. They're tropical so they like it warm—think 65 at night to 85 during the day. But keep them away from drafty windows or heating vents; they're not big fans of fluctuating temperatures and will show their displeasure by dropping leaves.

This guide has been put together to give a brief outline of the care needed. If you require any further information, please ask our plant advisors who will be very happy to help.



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