



Nook & Nature

By Neha Kunal Deshmukh

Plant Care Guide

Simple steps for healthy , happy plants



Chinese Money Tree

(Pachira Aquatica)

The Chinese Money Tree, also known as *Pachira aquatica*, is a popular houseplant with a unique braided trunk and lush, tropical foliage. It is believed to bring good luck and fortune, which is why it is often chosen as a decorative plant. With its attractive appearance and relatively easy care requirements, it has become a favorite among indoor plant enthusiasts.



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Origin: Central and South America

Care Level & Placement: Easy care, Indoor plant



Light

The Chinese Money Tree thrives in bright, indirect light. Place it near a window with filtered sunlight or in a well-lit room. Avoid exposing it to direct sunlight, as it can scorch the leaves. Rotate the plant periodically for even growth.



Water

Water the Chinese Money Tree thoroughly when the top inch of soil feels dry to the touch. Allow excess water to drain away and avoid letting the plant sit in standing water, as it can lead to root rot.



Soil

Use a well-draining potting mix that retains some moisture. A mixture of regular potting soil, peat moss, and perlite or sand works well. Good drainage is important to prevent waterlogged conditions and promote healthy root growth.



Fun fact

The braided trunk of the Chinese Money Tree is not natural. It is created by intertwining the stems of young plants and allowing them to grow together. The braided trunk is considered a symbol of good luck and prosperity.



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Pet Friendliness

The Chinese Money Tree is generally non-toxic to cats, dogs, and other pets.



Stress Signs

Yellowing Leaves: Yellowing leaves can indicate overwatering or root rot. Ensure the pot has proper drainage to prevent water from accumulating at the roots.

Leaf Browning or Crisping: Browning or crisping of the leaf edges can be a sign of low humidity or inadequate watering. Increase humidity levels around the plant by misting the leaves or placing a tray of water nearby. Ensure the plant is receiving adequate water without overdoing it.

Leaf Dropping: If the Chinese Money Tree experiences sudden leaf dropping, it may be due to a change in environment or stress. This can occur when the plant is exposed to drafts, temperature extremes, or inconsistent watering. Keep the plant in a stable and suitable environment to prevent excessive leaf dropping.

Botanical Family: Malvaceae

Botanical Name: Pachira Aquatica

Common Name: Chinese Money Tree, Money Tree Plant, Guiana Chestnut

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