Tradescantia zebrina

WANDERING DUDE

REGION OF ORIGIN

Mexico



LIGH.

Tradescantia thrives in bright, indirect light. Place it near an east- or west-facing window to provide plenty of filtered sunlight, which helps maintain its vibrant leaf colors. While it can survive in low light, the foliage may lose its vibrancy and become leggy. Avoid prolonged direct sunlight, as it can scorch the leaves, leading to browning or discoloration.



FERTILIZER

We recommend using fertilizers like Espoma Organic Cactus Plant Food, Jack's All Purpose, or Organic Plant Magic. These options provide essential nutrients to keep your plants vibrant and thriving.



PRUNING & PROPAGATION

Prune to maintain shape. Remove dead or yellowing leaves to improve plant health. For propagation, choose a stem with at least 3 nodes. Cut just below a node, making the cutting around 5 inches long. Place the cutting in a jar of water, ensuring the node is submerged. Once the cutting has developed roots, transplant it into soil.



SOII

We recommend using a mixture of 2/3 Rooted Goods All-Purpose Potting Mix or Uncle Mike's Organic Potting Mix with 1/3 coarse garden sand, perlite, or small pre-rinsed gravel. Another great option is Espoma's Organic Cactus mix.



TEMPERATURE

Tradescantia thrives in temperatures between 60–80°F (15–27°C). Temperatures below 50°F (10°C) can harm the plant, leading to leaf damage or slowed growth. Protect it from cold drafts, air conditioners, and heaters, as sudden temperature changes can cause stress.



WATER

Tradescantia prefers a consistent watering schedule to keep the soil slightly moist but not soggy. Water when the top 1–2 inches of soil feel dry to the touch, and avoid letting the soil dry out completely, as this can stress the plant. Water thoroughly until excess drains from the bottom of the pot, and always empty the saucer to prevent root rot.



ISSUES + FIXES

Be on the lookout for pests such as mealybugs, aphids, and scale. Regularly inspect your plant for signs of infestation and treat promptly with natural or chemical remedies.



PET FRIENDLY?

Tradescantia is considered mildly toxic to pets like cats and dogs. If ingested, it can cause mild stomach upset (vomiting or diarrhea) and skin irritation, as the sap may irritate the skin or mouth. To keep your furry friends safe, place Tradescantia out of their reach or opt for pet-safe alternatives.





