



Washingtonia Care Details

The following will be of use to ensure that your palm has the best possible start.

- Take care on opening. The netting is best cut at the base of the container and pulled upwards to remove. Please be very careful though as they have sharp spikes which can stab you!

- Using 'a controlled (or slow) release fertiliser when planting will ensure that your plant is correctly fed and will grow at an optimum rate, remembering to re-pot as necessary. John Innes or general multi- purpose compost will usually have sufficient food for the first 4-6 weeks, if no food is added.

- If growing in a container, allow the plant to become near rootbound before potting on.

- *Washingtonia filifera* will live outside all year round in warmer parts of the UK with protection. If you live somewhere that regularly experiences temperatures below -6°C or if prolonged frost is forecast then it is essential to tie the leaves together to protect the crown and cover with horticultural fleece for winter. *Washingtonia robusta* is less hardy and should be either brought inside or wrapped and protected for the winter. The crown is the most important part as this is where new growth forms.

- They will tolerate full sun or part shade in rich, fairly well drained soil.

- If a leaf becomes tatty, simply prune the stem to the trunk and new leaves will emerge from the crown of the palm.

- As *Washingtonia* are monocots (single trunked), the trunk will increase in size from the base of the old leaf stems and pruning old leaf stems will keep them looking tidy.

- Please remember to also look at "Is it Hardy" at the top of Plant Care section and have a look at www.easytropicals.com for companion ideas & a general hardiness guide. If you have any questions please email for a prompt reply.

Many thanks for looking.