### ☆Mahoney's

Platycerium bifurcatum

## **STAGHORN FERN**

**REGION OF ORIGIN** 

Australia, Southeast Asia

#### **Ö** Light

Staghorn Fern thrives in bright, indirect light. Place it near an east- or north-facing window for filtered light or in a spot with indirect light all day. Avoid direct sunlight, which can scorch the fronds, and very low-light conditions, which may stunt its growth.



Staghorn ferns in nature obtain nutrients only from moisture in the air. Feed lightly by misting occasionally with a diluted fertilizer solution, or soak in water mixed with a weak fertilizer every couple of months to provide nutrients.



Remove pups (small offshoots) from the base of a mature plant, carefully separating each pup with its own fronds and roots. Either mount it on a base of damp sphagnum moss or pot it in a well-draining mix of orchid bark and cactus soil.



#### SOIL

For mounted Staghorn Ferns, it's best to use sphagnum moss as a growing medium to hold moisture and provide support. For potted ferns, a mix of orchid bark and cactus soil works well, offering excellent drainage and aeration to mimic their natural environment.

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Staghorn Fern thrives in temperatures between 60-80°F (16-27°C). It prefers a warm, stable climate and should be kept away from cold drafts or extreme heat sources like heaters. Avoid exposing to temperatures below 50°F (10°C), as this can cause stress or damage.



Staghorn Fern is pet-safe and non-toxic to cats and dogs, making it an excellent choice for homes with furry companions.



Submerge the roots in water for 15-20 minutes once a week, allowing them to absorb moisture fully. After soaking, let the plant drain thoroughly to prevent rot. In dry climates or for mounted ferns, mist the fronds regularly to maintain humidity, and ensure the plant never dries out completely.



Keep an eye out for common pests such as scale, mealybugs, and aphids. Regularly inspect your plant for signs of infestation and treat promptly with natural or chemical remedies.