

Palms create a lush tropical atmosphere indoors. Unlike some houseplants, palms put out new growth during the winter. Every three or four months give them slow-release houseplant food, following manufacturer's directions. When they near the maximum size you want, feed just once a year in spring. The potential giants (fishtail and fan palms), plus the wide spreaders (such as *Howea* sp.), will need less per feeding than the shorter palms (parlor and bamboo).

Palms like plenty of moisture, but be sure to use a porous soil, and don't let pots stand in water.