



Winterize Your Houseplants

If your houseplants have been summering outside, follow these steps for a smoother transition from outdoors to inside your home:

1. In September, start a pest control program to keep unwanted insects from hitching a ride into your house and infesting other plants. Spray plants a couple of times with **ferti•lome Triple Action** to make sure plants are free of pests. Spray the soil as well as the plant itself. Water monthly with **ferti•lome 20-20-20 Soluble Plant Food** or **Nature's Source Plant Food** to maintain good color.
2. Prepare to move plants indoors before nights get as cool as 50°F.
3. Wash plants with water to get rid of remaining insects and disease spores.
4. Houseplants will need repotting if these conditions are present:
 - Plants wilt rapidly after watering
 - Soil dries out quickly
 - Roots appear on soil surface
 - Decreasing leaf size on new growth
5. Repotting hints:
 - Use **ferti•lome Ultimate Potting Mix** for optimum growth and drainage.
 - New pot should be no more than 2" wider than the old pot.
6. Spray again with **Triple Action Insect Spray** to make sure plants are free of pests.
7. After spraying, put down a soil application of **Hi-Yield Systemic Insect Granules** to systemically control sucking insects.
8. Prune dead or spindly stems and foliage to encourage compact, bushy growth.
9. Fertilize lightly with **ferti•lome 20-20-20 Soluble Plant Food** or **Nature's Source Plant Food** during the winter months, returning to a regular fertilizer schedule in spring, summer and early fall.

