



# Clifton

NURSERIES



## **KENTIA (Howea Forsteriana)**

The Kentia palm originates from the Lord Howe Islands near Australia. In their native habitat they can reach up to 20 meters high. Although as a house plant they are relatively slow growing.

### **LIGHT**

This plant has a reputation for tolerating low light levels. However, in very low light conditions; the Kentia palm is not expected to flourish.

### **WATER**

From April to September, allow the surface of the compost to just begin drying between watering. When giving water you must ensure that the whole root area is thoroughly moist. This will inevitably result in water passing through the pot into the saucer. At this stage it is vital to remove any excess water from the saucer as palms generally dislike sitting in water. Misting the palm is optional with bottled or filtered water.

### **TEMPERATURE**

A minimum temperature of 10°C (32°F). Winter night time temperature should ideally be less than 15°C (59°F). Ideal temperature range of 15-25°C (59-77°F) during the day.

### **FEED**

Feed monthly with a liquid fertiliser. It is not necessary to feed any more than this.

### **REPOT**

Only repot when the plant is completely root bound. This could be every third year.

### **PRUNING**

You can not cut the growing tip of a palm; if you do it will die. You can however, remove damaged fronds when necessary by cutting the stem back as close to the base as possible.

*Do not use leaf shine type products on this plant. A damp cloth is adequate for cleaning.*