TOXIC KITTY

# Toxic plants for cats

A one-page fridge poster. Emergency plants, common UK houseplants and garden plants, and species listed as non-toxic. Verdicts match our guides. If your cat chews a plant, call your vet.

Scan for the Toxic Kitty app

## Emergency: drop everything and call

**Treat any contact as a vet call. Do not wait for signs. Do not make your cat sick unless a vet tells you to.**

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| **True lilies** | Lilium and Hemerocallis, including Easter, tiger, Asiatic, Oriental and daylilies. Pollen, petals, leaves and vase water can cause acute kidney failure. |
| **Sago palm** | A cycad, not a true palm. All parts are toxic; seeds are the worst. Linked with severe liver failure. |
| **Autumn crocus** | Colchicum, not spring crocus. Colchicine in flowers, corms and vase water. An emergency plant. |

**Animal PoisonLine: 01202 509000. A 24-hour service run by the Veterinary Poisons Information Service. A fee applies per call.**

## Toxic: paws off, keep out of reach

These are still not cat-safe. Identify the plant and call your vet if it was chewed.

### HOUSEPLANTS

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| **Pothos (devil's ivy)** | Oxalate crystals; mouth pain and drooling. Hanging it does not make it safe. |
| **Peace lily** | Oxalate irritant, not a true lily. Still not a cat-safe houseplant. |
| **Monstera** | Oxalates in leaves and stems. |
| **Snake plant** | Saponins that can upset a cat's stomach. |
| **Aloe vera** | Poisonous if chewed. Vomiting, diarrhoea and lethargy. |
| **Dracaena** | Mildly toxic saponins in corn plants, dragon trees and lucky bamboo. |
| **Cyclamen** | Saponins, especially in the tuber. A winter windowsill problem. |
| **Poinsettia** | Usually mouth irritation; milder than its reputation. Still keep it out of reach. |
| **Calla lily** | Oxalate irritant, not a true lily. Mouth pain and drooling. Still keep it out of reach. |
| **Jade plant** | ASPCA and Cats Protection mark it toxic. Animal PoisonLine lists Crassula ovata as pet-safe. |

### GARDEN AND SEASONAL

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| **Tulips** | Tulipalin; bulbs are worst. Vase water is not a cat bowl. |
| **Daffodils** | Lycorine in bulbs, stems and vase water. Paperwhites share the concern. |
| **Amaryllis and hyacinth** | Forced winter bulbs and vase water sitting at cat height. |
| **Chrysanthemums** | Sesquiterpene lactones and pyrethrins. Florist daisies are often mums. |
| **Carnations** | Mildly toxic. Pinks and Sweet William sit on the same caution lists. |
| **Holly and mistletoe** | Toxic. UK charities highlight the berries most. Not the same as a lily or a poinsettia. |
| **Hydrangea** | Cyanogenic glycoside; gut upset is the usual picture. Cyanide poisoning is listed as rare. |

## Listed as non-toxic: the friendlier bunch

Named species our guides list as non-toxic. Any plant can still cause mild upset if overeaten. Check the Latin name before a pot comes home.

Spider plant · Calathea · Parlour palm · Areca palm · Boston fern · Moth orchid · Rosemary · Roses · Sunflowers · African violet · Peperomia · Money tree · Christmas cactus

**Sources checked 9 November 2026**

Sources: ASPCA, Cats Protection, Animal PoisonLine. Full guides at www.toxickitty.app.
Shared by Toxic Kitty (https://www.toxickitty.app), an iOS app that checks plants, foods and household items for cat toxicity. Guidance only, not a diagnosis. If you are worried, always contact your vet.