

**Botanical name:**  
**Genus: *Aspidistra***  
**Species: *elator***

**Common Name(s):** Iron plant

**Latin Family Name:**  
Asparagaceae  
**English Family Name:**  
Asparagus

### The plant

**Origin; country or region:** Native to the Far East

**Growth habit:** An evergreen plant

**Flower description:** Blooms very rarely

**Blooming period/availability:** Perennial

**Leaf/Foliage Description:** Basal, erect, long-petiolate, solitary, evergreen leaves

**Usage:** A trusted indestructible plant

#### STRENGTHS/OPPORTUNITIES:

It makes a good evergreen especially for low light areas as well as indoors in pots

Known for its ability to withstand neglect

Grows well in pots or as a statement in a garden

#### WEAKNESS:

Sensitive to sun and over watering

Leaves need regular cleaning

Slow growing



**TRIVIA:** They were popular foliage plants in Victorian times because of their resilience to coal fire and gas lamp fumes and tolerance of shade

### Care & Handling

**Longevity:** 15 years plus

**Water requirements:** Water regularly

**Light:** Cast iron plants prefer partial to full shade and are intolerant of direct sun

**Soil/Nutrition:** Cast-iron plants tolerate a wide range of soils, as long as they have good drainage

**Special care/remarks:** Also cultivated and used as cut foliage

The specific  
epithet name  
*elator* means  
taller

