

Botanical name:
Genus: Nephrolepis
Species: exaltata

Common Name(s): Boston fern,
Sword fern
Latin Family Name:
Lomariopsidaceae
English Family Name:
Fern

The plant

Origin; country or region: Native to tropical regions throughout the world

Growth habit: A lush green terrestrial or epiphytic fern
The fern is common in humid forests and swamps

Flower description: NA

Blooming period/availability: NA

Leaf/Foliage Description: Sword like leaves are bright and are a fresh green colour
They are oblong, long and wide
Significant spores on the underside of the leaves ; these are dark brown to black dots that appear in a pattern
Do not mistake these for insect or disease damage

Usage: An elegant and graceful fern since the Victorian times

STRENGTHS/OPPORTUNITIES:

Lovely specimen plant for a home or office

Lovely if grown in hanging baskets

Place near kitchens and bathrooms for higher humidity or set on a tray of wet pebbles

Mini varieties add a great touch with exotic flowering plants such as Orchids and Anthurium

Good additions for Poly-botanical plant arrangements

Pop a Boston fern on a shelf or sideboard-it's fast-growing, feathery fronds will add a gorgeous splash of green colour and texture

WEAKNESS:

High maintenance

Leaves can drop easily

Leaves get damaged easily

Scales or spider mites can be a problem if the air around the plant is too dry

The Boston Fern is an air-purifying superhero. So heroic are his credentials in this area that NASA has officially recognised him for his outstanding air purifying qualities

Care & Handling

Longevity: 5 years plus

Water requirements: Few times a week

Light: Bright to semi shade light

Keep out of bright sunlight

Soil/Nutrition requirements: An organically rich, loamy soil with good drainage

Special care/remarks: The Boston fern is the most tolerant to drought

