

Botanical name:
Genus: Schefflera
Species: arboricola

Common Name(s):
Dwarf umbrella

Latin Family Name: Araliaceae
English Family Name: Aralia

The plant

Origin; country or region: Native to Hainan and Taiwan

Growth habit: Shrub or small tree

Flower description: Rarely flowers indoors

Blooming period/availability: Perennial

Leaf/Foliage Description: A broad-leaves that are showy and glossy

Upright stems clad with slender-stalked, compound, palmate, evergreen leaves

Usage: A generally low-maintenance indoor potted plant

STRENGTHS/OPPORTUNITIES:

Several species are grown in pots as

houseplants, most commonly

Schefflera actinophylla (umbrella tree)

and *Schefflera arboricola* (dwarf umbrella tree)

Goods as house plants in containers and in patios

Good specimen plant in tubs for home and commercial office corners, atria, or as a specimen tree in larger interior landscape sites as a hedge plant

They can be grown outdoors in containers in the summer in full sun but appreciate protection from harsh rays

WEAKNESS:

Leaf spotting

Sensitive to light and surroundings

Root rot



The larger *Schefflera actinophylla* features long, shiny, oval green leaves that droop gracefully from a central stalk, resembling an umbrella

Schefflera arboricola (sometimes called dwarf Schefflera) features smaller, glossy leaves, sometimes with creamy variegation
Other than the smaller size, it looks very similar to its taller cousin

Care & Handling

Longevity: 10 years plus, although this depends on how well you care for it

Water requirements: It does not like wet feet, so water deeply and let dry almost completely between watering

Light: Place in a window with bright light or filtered indirect light

Nutrition requirements: Peaty well-drained soil mix

Special care/remarks: Clean leaves as needed with a damp sponge to maintain best foliage appearance

To increase humidity, mist foliage with water and/or place containers on a tray of wet pebbles

Prune to control size

All parts of the Schefflera plant are mildly toxic to humans and pets

Popular cultivars include 'Dazzle', a variegated form with nearly white leaves; 'Gold Capella', a yellow and green variegated form; 'Trinette', a white and cream variegated plant; and 'Dwarf', which has dark green leaves

