

## Southern Sword Fern (*Nephrolepis Cordifolia*)



Your plants have been through a hard trip and need a little TLC to get going again. You may plant in a container, hanging basket or (if temperatures are warm) directly in the ground in a shady location and keep well watered for about a week or two until they have re-established their roots. Plant so top of roots are well covered, planting a little deep is better than too shallow. Use well draining soil; don't allow water to stand on these plants.

Some of the fronds may yellow from the trip, but new fronds will emerge from the roots when the plants have recovered from the trip.

After the initial period, average water is sufficient; **don't over water, use well draining soil, don't allow water to stand on these plants.** They are better a little dry than too wet.

These multiply from the roots by sending out runners, so you may want to leave some room in the container for them to multiply. They are very fast growing and **prefer shade or filtered sun.**

These ferns will survive in the ground to zone 9, but **can become invasive in these warm climates and take over your shady areas,** so I suggest keeping it as a container plant or plant with care in the landscape. For me, these are a wonderful plant to put under the many Magnolia tree's in my yard, where NOTHING else will grow, these thrive! Of course, they make EXCELLENT container plants in EVERY ZONE!

They are very drought tolerant, but will have more lush foliage with regular water - but don't OVERWATER. Allowing the top inch or so of soil to dry between waterings is best.

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