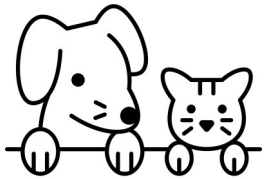


Flaming Sword Bromeliad



This plant is considered non-toxic, therefore safe around children and pets.

Vriesea sp.

- **Use:** Vriesea bromeliads are exotic tropical houseplants that feature feather-like bloom structures. Many varieties have variegated foliage. Bromeliads are bold, stylish houseplants that work especially well in contemporary, modern, and tropical decor styles. In addition to their exotic look, bromeliads also improve indoor air quality, helping clear air of indoor pollutants such as formaldehyde (which can be released by paint, gas-burning appliances, and clothing that has been dry cleaned). Vrieseas comprise over 230 species .
- **Exposure/Soil:** Outdoors Partial Shade (when temps are above 50 degrees), Indoors bright to medium light. They are epiphytic meaning they use their roots to attach to a host plant such as a tree rather than grow in the ground. They can be either mounted on a substrate or planted in a pot. Because their roots act primarily as an anchor rather than a source for water and nutrients, if they are planted in a potting mix that remains too soggy they will easily succumb to root rot. They take in water through their central tank and leaves in addition to their roots. Keep water in the bromeliad's tank, the space where the leaves meet and form a cup toward the base of the plant. Never put water in the bracts or flowering portion of the plant. It will shorten the life of the inflorescence.
- **Growth:** Grows 2.5'-3' tall and 1.5'-2' wide.
- **Hardiness:** Zone 10-11; Houseplant, Maintain indoor temperatures between 60°F and 80°F . Must bring inside in the winter.
- **Foliage:** Leaves are entire and banded or plain green.
- **Flower/Fruit:** Inflorescence is scapose, flattened and 2-ranked. The showy bracts are burgundy, red, orange, or yellow. Often, the inflorescence bracts are showier (and longer lasting) than the flowers. Note: After the main flower on your bromeliad begins to fade, the mother plant will begin to decline. But you'll see baby bromeliads (called pups) developing around the base. Grow these out and enjoy more bromeliads!

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