Pet ‘safe’ plants

This is a list of plants that are considered safe for households with pets. Note, however, that ingestion of any plant material may cause mild gastrointestinal upset. If your pet repeatedly chews plants and has gastrointestinal upset, it is recommended that plants are removed from the home or fenced off in the garden, if practical.

Note that plants with stinging hairs, thorns, prickles or spines have not been included in the list.

The list is not exhaustive and will be updated and revised as more information becomes available.

Be careful with plant names

Be aware that common names (that is, non-scientific names) may be shared by different plants. For example, the common name ‘elephant ears’ applies to several different species of plant. This is also the case with ‘money plant’ and ‘umbrella plant’. Scientific plant names may also change as more refined techniques are used to establish the relationships of plants species and families.

Allergic reactions

Many plants can cause allergic reactions in people, but this usually occurs in those with repeated contact with plants such as florists, gardeners, plant nursery workers and horticulturists. Reports of allergic reactions to plants in pets are uncommon.

Information on poisonous plants

Information on poisonous plants is available in the HTA Guide to Potentially Harmful Plants produced by the Horticultural Trades Association (HTA) in association with Animal PoisonLine (APL) and the Veterinary Poisons Information Service (VPIS).
Available at https://hta.org.uk/poisonousplants

Pet ‘safe’ plants

Common name(s)	Scientific name
African marigold	*Tagetes erecta*
African violet	*Streptocarpus ionathus* (older name *Saintpaulia ionantha*)
Air plants	*Tillandsia* species
Aluminium plant	*Pilea cadierei*
Alyssum	*Lobularia maritima*
Angel’s tears	*Soleirolia soleirolii*
Areca palm	*Chrysalidocarpus lutescens* (older name *Areca lutescens*)
Artillery plant	*Pilea microphylla*
Asparagus	*Asparagus officinalis*
Asparagus fern	*Asparagus setaceus, Asparagus densiflorus*

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Common name(s)	Scientific name
Aspidistra	*Aspidistra* species
Aubrieta	*Aubrieta* species
Baby's tears	*Soleirolia soleirolii*
Bamboo palm	*Chrysalidocarpus lutescens* (older name *Areca lutescens*)
Bear's breeches	*Acanthus mollis*
Beautiful wax plant	*Hoya bella*
Bellflower	*Campanula* species
Bird of paradise	*Strelitzia reginae*
Bird's nest fern	*Asplenium nidus*
Black-eyed Susan vine	*Thunbergia alata*
Blazing star	*Liatris* species
Blue echeveria	*Echeveria glauca*
Boat orchid	*Cymbidium* species
Boston fern	*Nephrolepis exaltata*
Busy lizzie	*Impatiens walleriana*
Butterfly bush	*Buddleia* species
Butterfly orchid	*Psychopsis* species
Butterfly palm	*Chrysalidocarpus lutescens* (older name *Areca lutescens*)
Calathea	*Goeppertia* species (older name *Calathea* species)
Canna lily	*Canna* species
Canterbury bell	*Campanula medium*
Cast iron plant	*Aspidistra* species
Cathedral window plant	*Goeppertia makoyana* (older name *Calathea makoyana*)
Chain of hearts	*Ceropegia woodii*
Chinese money plant	*Pilea peperomioides*
Christmas cactus	*Schlumbergera* species
Climbing asparagus	*Asparagus verticillatus*
Coleus	*Coleus* species
Common Marigold	Calendula *officinalis*
Cosmos	*Cosmos* species
Crane flower	*Strelitzia reginae*
Creeping Charlie	*Pilea nummulariifolia*
Crocosmia	*Crocosmia* species
Dahlia	*Dahlia species*
Daisy	*Bellis perennis*
Dandelion	*Taraxacum officinale*
Echeveria	*Echeveria* species
Elephant's foot	*Beaucarnea recurvata* (older name *Nolina recurvata*)
Elkhorn fern	*Platycerium bifurcatum*
Eternal flame plant	*Goeppertia crocata* (older name *Calathea crocata*)
Evening stock	*Matthiola longipetala*
False castor oil plant	*Fatsia japonica*
Flaming Katy	*Kalanchoe blossfeldiana*
Flamingo plant	*Hypoestes phyllostachya*
Florist's gloxinia	*Sinningia speciosa*
Freckle face	*Hypoestes phyllostachya*
Freesia	*Freesia* species

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Common name(s)	Scientific name
French marigold	*Tagetes patula*
French peanut	*Pachira aquatica* or *Pachira glabra*
Friendship plant	*Pilea involucrata*
Fuchsia	*Fuchsia* species
Gardenia	*Gardenia species*
Geranium	*Pelargonium* species
Gerbera or gerbera daisy	*Gerbera* species
Glaucous echeveria	*Echeveria secunda*
Gloxinia	*Sinningia speciosa*
Golden polypody	*Phlebodium aureum*
Golden shrimp plant	*Pachystachys lutea*
Grape hyacinth	*Muscari* species
Grape ivy	*Cissus alata* (older name *Cissus rhombifolia*)
Guinea peanut	*Pachira aquatica* or *Pachira glabra*
Gunpowder plant	*Pilea microphylla*
Harebell	*Campanula rotundifolia*
Hare's-foot fern	*Davallia solida* var. *fejeensis*
Heuchera	*Heuchera* species
Hibiscus	*Hibiscus* species
Himalayan balsam	*Impatiens glandulifera*
Hollyhock	*Alcea rosea*
Honeysuckle	*Lonicera periclymenum*
Honesty	*Lunaria annua*
Hosta	*Hosta* species
Hound's tongue	*Zealandia pustulata*
Impatiens New Guinea	*Impatiens hawkeri*
Jade plant	*Crassula ovata*
Japanese laurel	*Aucuba japonica*
Kangaroo fern	*Zealandia pustulata* (older name *Microsorum pustulatum*)
Kentia Palm	*Howea forsteriana*
Lace fern	*Asparagus setaceus*
Lady palm	*Rhapis excelsa*
Lilac	*Syringa vulgaris*
Lollipop plant	*Pachystachys lutea*
Lucky tree	*Pachira aquatica* or *Pachira glabra*
Madagascar jasmine	*Stephanotis floribunda*
Maidenhair fern	*Adiantum* species
Marigold	*Tagetes* species
Mexican fire-cracker	*Echeveria setosa*
Mexican gem	*Echeveria elegans*
Mexican snowball	*Echeveria elegans*
Mind your own business	*Soleirolia soleirolii*
Mock orange	*Philadelphus* species
Money plant	*Crassula ovata*
Money tree	*Pachira aquatica* or *Pachira glabra*
Montbretia	*Crocosmia × crocosmiiflora*
Moth orchid	*Phalaenopsis* species

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Common name(s)	Scientific name
Mother of thousands	*Soleirolia soleirolii*
Mountain ash	*Sorbus acuparia*
Moutan peony	*Paeonia* × *suffruticosa*
Myrtle	*Myrtus communis*
Nasturtium	*Tropaeolum* species
Night-scented stock	*Matthiola longipetala*
Orchids	*Brassavola* species, *Cattleya* species, *Cymbidium* species, *Dendrobium* species, *Epidendrum* species, *Lycaste* species, *Miltonia* species, *Oncidium* species, *Paphiopedum* species, *Phalaenopsis* species, *Psychopsis* species, *Zygopetalum* species
Parlour palm	*Chamaedorea elegans*
Peacock plant	*Goeppertia makoyana* (older name *Microsorum pustulatum*)
Peony	*Paeonia* species
Peperomia	*Peperomia* species
Petunia	*Petunia* species
Phlox	*Phlox* species
Pistol plant	*Pilea microphylla*
Poker plant	*Kniphofia* species
Polka dot plant	*Hypoestes phyllostachya*
Ponytail palm	*Beaucarnea recurvata* (older name *Nolina recurvata*)
Pot Marigold	Calendula *officinalis*
Prayer plant	*Maranta leuconeura*
Purple rock cress	*Aubrieta* species
Rabbit's foot fern	*Davallia canariensis*
Rattlesnake plant	*Goeppertia lancifolia* (older name *Calathea lancifolia*)
Red hot poker	*Kniphofia* species
Rosary vine	*Ceropegia woodii*
Rowan	*Sorbus acuparia*
Rubber plant	*Ficus elastica*
Scaredy cat plant	*Coleus comosus* (older name *Plectranthus ornatus*)
Scarlet star	*Guzmania lingulata*
Shadow plant	*Goeppertia concinna* (older name *Calathea leopardine*)
Snapdragon	*Antirrhinum majus*
Spider plant	*Chlorophytum comosum*
Spotted laurel	*Aucuba japonica*
Spring crocus	*Crocus* species
Staghorn fern	*Platycerium bifurcatum*
Stock	*Matthiola incana*
Strawberry tree	*Arbutus unedo*
String of hearts	*Ceropegia woodii*
String of needles	*Ceropegia linearis*
Sunflower	*Helianthus annuus*
Swedish ivy	*Plectranthus verticillatus*
Sweet Alison	*Lobularia maritima*
Sweet alyssum	*Lobularia maritima*
Sweetheart vine	*Ceropegia woodii*
Torch lily	*Kniphofia* species
Tree peony	*Paeonia* × *suffruticosa*

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Common name(s)	Scientific name
Tufted air plant	*Guzmania* species
Venus fly trap	*Dionaea muscipula*
Wax agave	*Echeveria agavoides*
Wax plant	*Hoya carnosa*
Weigela	*Weigela* species
White Mexican rose	*Echeveria elegans*
Zebra plant	*Aphelandra squarrosa*
Zebra plant	*Goeppertia zebrina* (older name *Calathea zebrina*)
Zinnia	*Zinnia* species

About Animal PoisonLine

Animal PoisonLine is run by the Veterinary Poisons Information Service (VPIS) and is the only 24-hour specialised emergency telephone service in the UK dedicated to helping pet owners who are worried their pet may have been exposed to something harmful or poisonous. Based on the information you provide our vets and scientists will be able to advise you on the risk to your pet and whether you need to go to the vets for immediate treatment or can look after your pet at home.

Emergency 24-hour telephone number: **01202 509 000** (charges apply)
Website: www.animalpoisonline.co.uk

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