

Cultural Information- Abutilon
(a-BEW-tih-lon)

<u>Light:</u>	Full sun exposure (a southern window) is best. East or west windows would be the next choice. They are high light plants that need direct sunlight for flowering and compact growth.
<u>Temperature:</u>	Maintain temperatures above 45 degrees as an indoor container plant. Under warmer temperatures, grow in high light, as they are rapid growers and will stretch if light is low and temperatures warm.
<u>Humidity:</u>	Preferably 50% or higher; however, they will tolerate low levels with no harm.
<u>Watering:</u>	Bring the soil to a state of visual dryness between waterings. When watering, thoroughly saturate soil until a little water runs out of the bottom of the pot. Growing in a clay pot will help maintain a healthy root system.
<u>Fertilizer:</u>	Fertilize with ½ tsp of fertilizer per gallon of water once a week. If leaves become pale or older leaves turn yellow and fall excessively, increase fertilizer to twice a week until they green up. Use a balanced fertilizer i.e. 15-15-15 or a blooming fertilizer like Dyna-Gro Liquid Grow Plant Food 7-9-5.
<u>Pruning:</u>	Repot once plant has completely filled the pot. Abutilons love to be pruned and respond well to a hard pruning. To culture specimens over the long term, it is necessary to prune up to 50-70% of growth. Any time the growth gets straggly, cut them back hard.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	Abutilons are susceptible to white fly and spider mites. Keep the plants away from other infected plants. If they are kept outdoors in summer, check them carefully before bringing them back in, and give them a preventative spray.