

Cultural Information – Laurus
(law-russ)

<u>Light:</u>	Full sun, a southern exposure.
<u>Temperature:</u>	Maintain indoor temperatures above 32°.
<u>Humidity:</u>	Preferably 50% or higher; however, they will tolerate low levels for short periods with no harm.
<u>Watering:</u>	Bring soil to a state of visual dryness between watering. When watering, thoroughly saturate the soil until a little water trickles out of the bottom of the pot. Growing in a clay pot will help maintain a healthy root system.
<u>Fertilizer:</u>	Fertilize with ¼ tsp of fertilizer per gallon of water once a week during active growth. Use a balanced fertilizer like a 15-15-15 or 7-9-5. Stop fertilizing during the winter months.
<u>Pruning:</u>	Laurus takes well to pruning, and to create a bushy plant it is necessary to pinch young plants and periodically prune mature plants. Pruning is best done in late winter, springtime and throughout the summer, but no later than July to allow re-growth.
<u>Insects and Disease:</u>	Highly susceptible to scale, some susceptibility to mealy bug. No problems with root or foliar disease.
<u>Comments</u>	The bay tree is a slow growing plant that prefers good light to grow well. They can be trained into standards or bush form. Be cautious of using too much fertilizer as this can cause leaf burn.