

# REPOTTING HOUSEPLANTS

Houseplants will need to be repotted to allow their roots to grow and expand. Some plants may need to be repotted every year while others may only need it every two to three years. There are some signs that indicate that a plant needs to be repotted, such as visible roots near the surface of the plant, frequently wilting leaves, roots growing out of the drainage holes of the pot, or yellowing leaves near the bottom of the plants. The best time to repot a houseplant is in the winter months or in the spring, prior to the summer growth season for houseplants.

## **Step #1**

Remove the houseplant from the original pot and gently break up the roots apart. A knife may need to be used to cut apart the roots if they are packed together very tightly.

## **Step #2**

Select a pot that is only 2 to 4 inches larger in diameter than the current pot. If the new pot is too much larger, the soil will dry out slowly and it will be difficult to control the moisture.

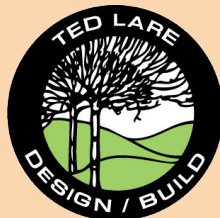
## **Step #3**

Place a small piece of stone or broken clay pot over the drainage hole to prevent soil from washing out of the hole.

## **Step #4**

Select an all-purpose potting soil. Place enough of the soil in the bottom of the pot so that the top of the roots are within 1 inch of the top of the container. Fill in soil around the roots and then gently pack the soil with your fingers. Water the plant until excess water drains out of the pot. Repeat as many times as necessary until the soil becomes thoroughly moist.

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