

XfrogPlants | Reference Manual

Houseplants

XfrogPlants Development Credit

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Usage Information

To use XfrogPlants, you need a Plugin, or Xfrog, or XfrogTune.

- Plugins are available for: Maya, Lightwave, 3ds max, and Cinema 4D. The Plugins are free, and allow the user to read XfrogPlants (XFR) into current (Windows) releases of each software;
- XfrogLite software can modify XfrogPlants and export them in the following formats: XFR, LWO, OBJ+MTL, 3DS, VRML, RIB, DXF;
- XfrogFull software can modify and animate XfrogPlants and export them in the following formats: XFR, LWO, OBJ+MTL, 3DS, VRML, RIB, DXF;
- XfrogTune software can tune the complexity of XfrogPlants, and export them as a single or LOD sequence of: OBJ+MTL, VRML. Please note: XfrogTune is designed for tuning Tree and Shrubs, it will not work well for Cacti, Succulents, or Flowers Libraries;

Please visit www.xfrog.com for all Plugins and Software.

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Author

The XfrogPlants Reference Manual was created in July 2002 by Orio Menoni.



01. MONA LISA (*Aeschynanthus* ssp.)

Plant

Origin: Tropical America

Xfrog models: 55 cm.; green leaves, red flower (hanging plant)
50 cm.; green leaves, red flower
45 cm.; green leaves, red flower

Environment: tropical

Climate: warm and humid

Notes: **Blooming:** from June until August. It needs a warm and humid climate the whole year, and good watering. It is a very popular choice in some countries for house decoration, mostly because it looks very good when hanging on a wall.



02. ASPARAGUS FERN (*Asparagus plumosus*)

Plant

Origin: South Africa

Xfrog models: 45 cm.; green fernlike plant
40 cm.
37 cm.

Environment: tropical

Climate: warm, mild

Notes: the Asparagus Fern is a climber perennial plant with flat, fernlike "leaves" (really they are not leaves but cladodes) that grow horizontal on wiry stems. It is frost-intolerant and can be grown outdoors only in regions with mild winters. Not to be confused with the common Asparagus (food), which is a Southern Europe plant.



03. KAFFIR LILY (*Clivia miniata*)

Plant

Origin: South Africa

Xfrog models: 55 cm.; green leaves, orange-red flowers
50 cm.; green leaves, orange-red flowers
45 cm.; green leaves, orange-red flowers

Environment: subtropical, in bright shade

Climate: warm, mild

Notes: Kaffir Lily is an easy plant to grow in a home environment. It requires good indirect lighting for bloom, but non-blooming plants are still beautiful. Kaffir lily roots contain small amounts of the alkaloid Lycorine, which is toxic for humans.



04. CROTON PETRA (*Codiaeum variegatum* var. *Pictum*)

Plant

Origin: Indonesia (Moluccan Islands)

Xfrog models: 25 cm.; green-red -yellow leaves
22 cm.; green-yellow leaves
17 cm.; green-yellow leaves

Environment: tropical, in full sunlight

Climate: warm

Notes: the vivid and bright variegated colours of Croton Petra gave this plant a great popularity. It is said that the colours of the Brazilian flag have been inspired by the leaves of Croton Petra. Full sunlight is required for the leaves to take the brightest colours.



05. SAGO PALM (*Cycas revoluta*)

Plant

Origin: Southeast of Asia

Xfrog models: 60 cm.; green
50 cm.; green
40 cm.; green

Environment: tropical

Climate: warm

Notes: Cycadaceae are one of the most ancient tall vegetation families still living today. Similar to palms and ferns, but being neither of the two (as commonly misbelieved) they have characteristics of their own. Sago Palm looks like a small or shrubby palm-tree. It can be also potted for home growing.



06. DENDROBIUM NOBILE (*Dendrobium nobile*)

Plant

Origin: Southeast of Asia

Xfrog models: 52 cm.; yellow flowers
45 cm.; yellow flowers
40 cm.; yellow flowers

Environment: tropical

Climate: warm and humid

Notes: Dendrobium nobile is appreciated for its display of brightly coloured flowers along the stem. It's a fairly easy orchid to grow. It requires moderate light in the summer and full light during Autumn and Winter. Blooming: Winter and early Spring.



07. RED EDGE DRACAENA (*Dracaena marginata*)

Plant

Origin: Madagascar

Xfrog models: 115 cm.; green leaves
100 cm.; green leaves
90 cm.; green leaves

Environment: tropical, in bright shade

Climate: warm and humid

Notes: Red Edge Dracaena is the easiest of all dracenae to grow, because it's the most tolerant with regards to air humidity. It needs indirect sunlight and constant humidification of soil and leaves, especially during the vegetative periods.



08. BALLERINA EPIDENDRUM (*Epidendrum ssp.*)

Plant

Origin: Mexico

Xfrog models: 50 cm.; yellow flowers
45 cm.; yellow flowers
40 cm.; yellow flowers

Environment: tropical, in full but indirect sunlight

Climate: warm

Notes: Reedstem Epidendrum is one of the easiest orchids to grow. It is little demanding about soil and watering, and can stay outdoors until just before the frost limit. It requires good indirect lighting. The flowering lasts quite long.



09. CROWN-OF-THORNS (*Euphorbia milii*)

Plant

Origin: Madagascar

Xfrog models: 17 cm.; cactus, green leaves, red flowers
15 cm.; cactus, green leaves, red flowers
12 cm.; cactus, green leaves, red flowers

Environment: sub-tropical, in full sunlight, on drained soil

Climate: warm and dry

Notes: the name comes from Euphorbius, an ancient Greek doctor who used the sap of this plant medicinally. *Euphorbia milii* is supposedly the plant used for Christ's crown of thorns (hence the name). The sap is poisonous and can be very irritating if touched. This plant loves direct sunlight, which makes blooming last longer. It grows well in a dry, warm environment.



10. ELECTRODE CACTUS (*Ferocactus histrix*)

Plant

Origin: Central Mexico

Xfrog models: 18 cm.
15 cm.
12 cm.

Environment: solitary, on desert lands and cliffs, in full sun, on dry soils

Climate: hot, warm

Notes: the electrode Cactus is a species that needs little or no water once established. It is also moderately frost-resistant. It most often grows as solitary individuals on the sandy arid soils of central Mexico.



11. BENJAMIN FICUS (*Ficus benjamina*)

Shrub/tree, evergreen broadleaf Shape: broadly columnar

Origin: India

Xfrog models: 150 cm.; green leaves
120 cm.; green leaves
80 cm.; green leaves

Environment: tropical, in bright shade

Climate: warm

Notes: the *Ficus* genus includes many tree and shrub species, both deciduous (like the fig tree) and evergreen, like Benjamin Ficus, which can also be potted and grown in a home environment. When potted, it doesn't grow higher than 2 m. The branches are slightly weeping.



12. GEMMA GUZMANIA (*Guzmania* diss. *Gemma*)

Plant

Origin: Tropical America (Costa Rica)

Xfrog models: 55 cm.; green leaves, yellow-red flower
45 cm.; green leaves, yellow-red flower
40 cm.; green leaves, yellow-red flower

Environment: tropical, partial shade or partial sun, on moist acidic soils

Climate: warm and humid

Notes: the Gemma variety, like the other *Guzmania* varieties, needs intense but indirect sunlight, and constantly high air humidity. Blooming: end of Winter. The bright colours of this species make it a favourite for house decoration.



13. COMMON IVY (*Hedera helix* ssp. *Helix*)

Plant

Origin: Europe

Xfrog models: 80 cm.; green leaves, hanging plant
70 cm.; green leaves, hanging plant
60 cm.; green leaves, hanging plant

Environment: European countryside, creeping on rocky slopes and trees

Climate: mild, temperate

Notes: the Common Ivy is a very humble and rustic plant, and yet, it's very much appreciated for decoration, because of the lobed evergreen deep green leaves. It produces black berry-like fruits. Now present all over the world as decorative species.



14. CHERRY PIE (*Heliotropium peruviana*)

Plant

Origin: South America (Peru)

Xfrog models: 25 cm.; green leaves, blue-purple flower
22 cm.; green leaves, blue-purple flower
18 cm.; green leaves, blue-purple flower

Environment: in full sunlight, on rich, moist soil

Climate: mild, temperate

Notes: the Cherry Pie plant is a sweet-scented plant which is called Heliotrope because it follows the course of the sun. It grows in a bushy form, and looks good throughout the summer. In the Language of Flowers, the heliotrope means devotion and faithfulness. The plant has therapeutic properties.



15. KALANCHOE (*Kalanchoe blossfeldiana*)

Plant

Origin: Madagascar

Xfrog models: 25 cm.; light green
20 cm.; light green
18 cm.; light green

Environment: sub-tropical areas, in full sunlight, on well-drained soils

Climate: warm

Notes: the flowers of this species last for many weeks and have bright vivid colours if the plant is exposed to full sunlight for at least 4 hours a day. It needs little water. Many garden cultivar of this species exist, in many different blooming colours.



16. BANANA (*Musa x paradisiaca*)

Plant

Origin: garden cultivar of the wild Asian Banana plant (*Musa acuminata*)

Xfrog models: 140 cm.; green plant
110 cm.; green plant
75 cm.; green plant

Environment: tropical valleys, in full light to light shade

Climate: warm and humid, mild

Notes: this is the Banana cultivar that is used for the commercial production of fruits. In plantations, it can grow up to 9 m., but it can also be potted and grown in a home environment as decorative species, in which case it rarely reaches the height of 2 m. It shares the same plant characteristics of its wild parent.



17. FISHBONE FERN (*Nephrolepis cordifolia*)

Plant

Origin: Pantropical

Xfrog models: 40 cm.
32 cm.
27 cm.

Environment: in bright shade, growing in soil, rocks, or palm trunks

Climate: warm

Notes: the Fishbone Fern is a tropical and cold-sensitive fern, that can grow only in warm climate regions. It can become weedy. Like most ferns, it grows of preference in the open, bright shade of taller species like trees and palms.



18. AFRICAN VIOLET (*Saintpaulia ionantha*)

Plant

Origin: Tanganyika (Africa)

Xfrog models: 16 cm.; green leaves, dark purple flower
15 cm.; green leaves, dark purple flower
12 cm.; green leaves, dark purple flower

Environment: tropical, in bright shade, on moist soil

Climate: warm and humid

Notes: the African Violet is a widely popular plant. Bright, indirect light (12 hours a day) is best for optimal blooming. Direct sun in winter may keep it flowering, but summer sun will burn it. Air humidity must be constantly high.



19. MINIATURE CHUSAN PALM

(*Trachycarpus wagnerianus*)

Palm

Origin: unknown in the wild, probably a cultivar of *Trachycarpus fortunei*

Xfrog models: 60 cm.; palm
60 cm.; palm
60 cm.; palm

Environment: gardens, in a sunny place, on moist, well-drained soil

Climate: temperate, cool

Notes: this is a medium-sized fan palm, quite similar to the Chinese Windmill Palm (*Trachycarpus fortunei*), but this species has slightly different leaves. It is very cold tolerant, even more than the Chinese Windmill Palm. It grows very slowly.



20. AROID PALM (*Zamioculcas zamifolia*)

Plant

Origin: Zanzibar, Tanzania (Africa)

Xfrog models: 65 cm.; green leaves
55 cm.; green leaves
45 cm.; green leaves

Environment: sub-tropical, light shade or full shade

Climate: warm wet summers, mild dry winters

Notes: not really a palm, the so-called Aroid Palm is a perennial plant that belongs to the Araceae (same family of the Philodendron). It has a somehow "prehistoric" look reminiscent of a cycad relative (hence the name).

