

## Product Information

*Pachira aquatica* is a commonly found houseplant called a Money Tree. The plant is also known as Malabar chestnut or Saba nut. Money tree plants often have their slender trunks braided together and are a low maintenance option for artificially lit areas. These plants are native to Mexico to northern South America. The trees can grow up to 60 feet tall in their native habitats but are more commonly small, potted ornamental specimens.

The plant has slim green stems topped with palmate leaves. In its native region, money tree plants produce fruits that are oval green pods divided into five chambers inside. The seeds within the fruit swell until the pod bursts. Roasted nuts taste a bit like chestnuts and can be used ground into flour. The plants get their name because the Feng Shui practice believes it will bring luck to the owner of this fun little plant.

## Care Tips

These plants do best when they are in full sun to partial shade. The best temperatures are 16 – 18 C. Plant the tree in peat moss with some gritty sand.

These plants like a moderately humid room and deep but infrequent watering. Water the plants until the water runs from the drainage holes and then let them dry out between watering. If your home is on the dry side, you can increase the humidity by placing the pot on a saucer filled with pebbles. Keep the saucer filled with water and the evaporation will enhance the humidity of the area.

Remember to fertilize every two weeks as part of good money tree plant care. Use a liquid plant food diluted by half. Suspend fertilizing in winter.

The Pachira plant rarely needs to be pruned but as part of your annual money tree plant care, take off any damaged or dead plant material. The plant should be repotted every two years in a clean peat mixture. Try not to move the plant around a lot. Money tree plants dislike being moved and respond by dropping their leaves. Also keep them away from drafty areas.

