Botanical name: Genus: Asplenium Species: nidus Common Name(s):
Bird nest fern
English Family Name:
Aspleniaceae
English family name:
Spleenwort

The plant

Origin; country or region: Native to the Tropical regions

**Growth habit:** Slow-growing, epiphytic fern **Flower description** (if applicable): NA

Blooming period/availability (if applicable): NA

**Leaf/Foliage Description:** Simple, entire, strap-shaped, glossy, bright apple green fronds often crinkled, with contrasting dark brown to black midribs and undulating margins. Fronds spread upward and outward to form a vase-shaped, green rosette with a nest-like center (albeit memorialized by some as resembling a bird's nest) into which fallen leaves and other organic matter typically accumulate

**Usage :** Noted for its shape and distinctive glossy bright green leaves

## **STRENGTHS/OPPORTUNITIES:**

A single fern has good specimen value Although impressive house plant Fast growing and easy No serious problems Can be grown on trees/barks as it is an epiphytic

**WEAKNESS:** 

Fragile foliage, handle gently Susceptible to slugs, snails, scale, mealybugs, bacterial leaf diseases Larger plants may need more room to spread This fern often lives in palm trees, where it collects water and humus in its leaf-rosette. It thrives in warm, humid areas in partial to full shade. It dislikes direct sunlight and likes to be in full

Care & Handling Longevity: 2-3 years

Water requirements: Keep compost moist

Light: Bright light

Soil/Nutrition/Fertilizer: A porous, well-draining potting soil

**Special care/remarks:** Watch for slugs and scale Drafts may cause fronds to brown at the edges Chemical insecticides will damage plants (use soaps if necessary) Mealybugs & bacterial leaf diseases

