

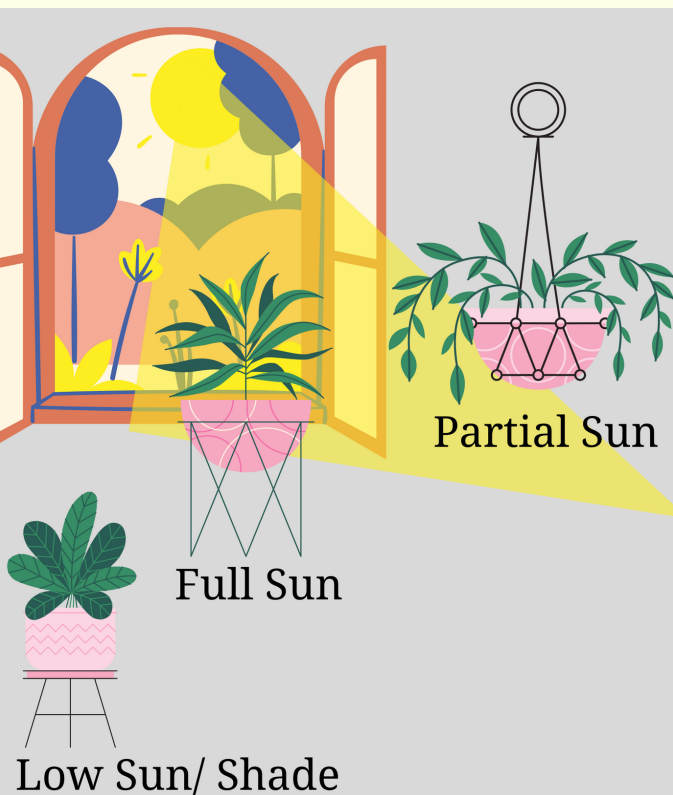
INDOOR SUN

One of the most important things to know before you start growing is what kind of light your growing space has for plants. Different plants need different amounts of light. Knowing what kind of light you have in your growing space can help you decide what plants will grow well there. With too little light, some plants wilt and stop growing. With too much light, some plants get damaged or even burn.

When gardeners (indoors and outdoors) talk about plants, they tend to use standard words to describe light conditions that are best for certain plants. This includes how bright the light is, and whether the light shines directly through your window onto the plants, or indirectly, by bouncing off a wall or another surface. Here are some common ones and what they mean:

Sunlight terms used for indoor plants

- **Full sun/ Bright light:** light coming through a window that is not blocked by another building or structure. Windows that get bright light usually face West or South. Plants that need bright light need about 5-6 hours of sunlight per day.
- **Partial sun/ Medium light:** light coming from a window that passes through something else, like a sheer curtain, to make it less direct, or light that is a bit further away from the window in a bright room. Plants that need medium light still need about 5-6 hours of sunlight per day.
- **Low sun/ Shade:** low light conditions are found in rooms that don't get direct sunlight, like in a basement or when a window is blocked, or in spaces further away from the window, say across the room, from direct sunlight.
- **Direct light:** this is when you can see the sunbeams coming through the window landing on your plant, with nothing in between.
- **Indirect light:** this is when sunbeams coming through a window do not land directly on your plant, either because there is something in between it and the window, like a sheer curtain, or because the plant is not directly in front of the window, but further away.



How Much Sun Does Your Growing Space Get?



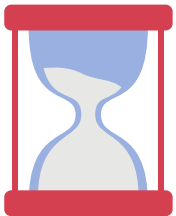
Direction

Windows that face South or West usually have full sun. You can use a map or compass to check directions. What direction does your window face?



Full or Partial Light

Full sunlight means there is nothing in between the window and the growing space. Partial sunlight means that sunlight is filtered through something else. Is there something outside such as a tree that changes your light? Does your window have curtains? If it does, are they thick, or see-through?



Time

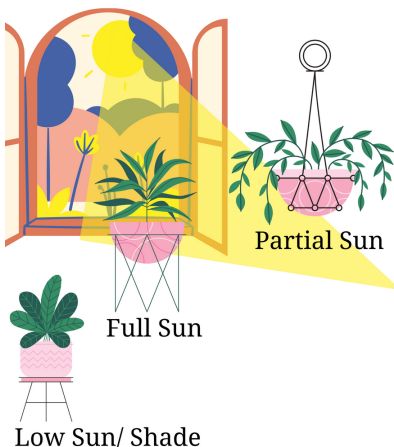
How many hours of the day does the sun shine directly through your window? For how many hours can you see the sun? Instead of watching it all day, you can try to check it at different times to see when you can see the sun and estimate the total number of hours.

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8am	9am	10am	11am	12pm	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm	6pm	7pm	8pm

Total:

Direct or Indirect Light

Where are you going to put your plants? Direct light means sunlight shines directly on your plants through the window. Do you have space on the windowsill or right in front of the window? Are there other areas of your growing space that get direct light?



Indirect light means beams of light coming through the window don't land directly on your plant. Are there places around your growing space that get indirect light?