

PLANTS TO READ ABOUT

Ficus Alii: long leaves for a soft green curtain

Alii's narrow, overhanging leaves give this fig its own distinctive expression. A bright, quiet position and an evenly supplied root ball help keep the crown dense and healthy.



AI-created scene based on the original shop photo. Size reference: 17 cm pot · 60–80 cm. Decoration is not included; this is not a product photograph to scale.

Grow with knowledge.

A collection for observation and reference. Detailed explanations to help you make care decisions suited to your plant and its position.

Issue September 2026

PLANT PORTRAIT

Ficus maclellandii 'Alii'

Ficus Alii: long leaves for a soft green curtain

Alii's narrow, overhanging leaves give this fig its own distinctive expression. A bright, quiet position and an evenly supplied root ball help keep the crown dense and healthy.



AI-created scene based on the original shop photo. Size reference: 17 cm pot · 60–80 cm. Decoration is not included; this is not a product photograph to scale.

Botanical classification	Ficus maclellandii 'Alii'
Family	Moraceae
Origin	South and Southeast Asia to southern China; Alii is a cultivated form
Delivery size	17 cm pot · 60–80 cm
Growth and distinctive feature	Evergreen woody plant with long, narrow, overhanging leaves

Care at a glance

Observe, check and adapt care to the position and season. This table provides guidance for everyday practice.

Topic	What to do	Why it helps
Light	Bright indirect light to partial shade.	Provide enough daylight for dense growth.
Water	Let the upper centimetres dry slightly and check moisture below.	Avoid waterlogging and complete drying of the root ball.
Compost	Use a humus-rich, well-drained potting mix.	Roots need even moisture and air.
Feeding	During growth, feed moderately according to product instructions.	Existing fertiliser and actual activity matter more than fixed intervals.
Temperature	Keep in a warm, quiet indoor position without cold draughts.	Protect roots from cold floors too.
Pruning	Shorten long shoots gently during healthy growth.	Avoid milky sap contact and work cleanly.
Leaf care	Remove dust carefully without bending leaves.	Distinguish pale markings from new damage.
Problems	With substantial leaf fall, check several causes.	A single symptom does not prove a lack of water.

Knowledge that grows

A fig with particularly narrow foliage

Specialist plant profiles often assign Alii to *Ficus maclellandii*; *Ficus binnendijkii* Alii is also widespread in the trade. The long, narrow leaves hang loosely, forming a soft-looking crown. This distinguishes the form from small-leaved weeping fig and broad-leaved fiddle-leaf fig. All belong to the mulberry family. In warm native regions, the underlying figs grow into trees, while indoor growth remains limited by light, root space and occasional pruning.

Looking closely at the particular leaf pattern

The selected delivery form measures approximately 60–80 cm in a 17 cm pot. The shop photo shows long green foliage with pale edge areas; it gives no additional variety name. Our scene follows this pictured specimen without inventing another cultivar name. The current shop offer remains decisive for ordering. The narrow silhouette works well beside low furniture. Individual leaf lengths and the density of growth vary in living plants.

Providing bright, quiet light

A bright position with indirect light provides a good foundation. Partial shade is tolerated but generally leads to slower growth and lower water use. Avoid hot direct sun after shipping. The tree should not stand in the cold airflow from a frequently opened door. Small adjustments are possible, but constant moves make acclimatisation harder. Turn the pot a little occasionally if the crown clearly leans towards the light. Provide sufficient daylight and warm roots in winter too.

Between drought stress and a wet root ball

Let the upper centimetres of compost dry slightly and check the root ball before watering again. Then water evenly when needed and let excess drain. Constant wetness is as unsuitable as repeated complete drying. A light pot after shipping may need different care from a large, still-damp winter root ball. Leaf fall therefore does not automatically mean thirst. Check actual moisture before adding more water to the outer pot.

Guiding crown and roots gently

A well-drained, humus-rich mix supports container growing. When clearly well rooted, move to a suitable next size. During growth, feed moderately according to fertiliser instructions, reducing with little activity. Sources give different feeding intervals; the product, existing fertiliser and actual growth are decisive. Overlong shoots can be shortened with clean tools. Watch for escaping milky sap and avoid skin contact. Shaping through pruning supports long-term development, not immediate thickening of a weakened tree.

Distinguishing leaf fall from pale marks

Individual old leaves may fall. If loss increases, check moisture, temperature, changes of position and leaf undersides together. Scale insects, mealybugs or whiteflies may appear on shoots or undersides. Pale edges in the pictured pattern should be distinguished from newly formed spots. Remove dust carefully with a damp cloth without bending the narrow leaves. The ficus is ornamental; its milky sap can irritate, and nibbling pets should not reach it.

Pictures and details

Images and descriptions from this portrait. Decorative items are not included in the offer.



Original shop photo: long-leaved ficus. 17 cm pot · 60–80 cm.
Natural variation is possible.

Good to know

Why does the shop use a different botanical name?

Alii is often sold as *Ficus binnendijkii*; specialist profiles usually assign the cultivated form to *Ficus maclellandii*. Both names help with searching.

Is the pale leaf edge invented in the image?

No, the scene follows the selected shop photo with pale edge areas. An additional variety name is not established in the offer.

Should I water more immediately when leaves fall?

Check the compost first. Wetness, dryness, position changes and pests may call for different measures.

How does the plant keep its shape?

Good light and even care provide the foundation. A healthy ficus can be pruned moderately when needed under suitable growing conditions.

The matching offer

[Plant in the shop](#)

The linked shop is in German. Product details, availability and delivery information are provided in that shop.

[Read the complete portrait in English](#)



English portrait



Shop offer (in German)