

PLANTS TO READ ABOUT

Rubber plant Tineke: pale leaf edges and a good position

Cream-coloured edges, strong green and steady growth: Tineke brings character into a room leaf by leaf. A good position is the foundation.



AI-created home scene based on the shop image. Size reference: 11 cm pot, about 30–40 cm overall height. Decoration not included; the scene 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 elastica 'Tineke'

Rubber plant Tineke: pale leaf edges and a good position

Cream-coloured edges, strong green and steady growth: Tineke brings character into a room leaf by leaf. A good position is the foundation.



AI-created home scene based on the shop image. Size reference: 11 cm pot, about 30–40 cm overall height. Decoration not included; the scene is not a product photograph to scale.

Botanical name	Ficus elastica 'Tineke'
Position	Bright, protected from intense midday sun
Small version	11 cm pot, approximately 30–40 cm overall height
Larger version	17 cm pot, approximately 50–60 cm overall height
Sap	Milky sap can irritate; wear gloves when pruning

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	Choose a bright position with indirect daylight; moderate intense summer sun.	White-variegated leaves benefit from good light conditions.
Water	Water thoroughly once the upper compost has dried somewhat and the root ball needs water.	Constant wetness and prolonged dryness can trigger leaf problems.
Temperature	Keep normally warm and protect from cold draughts.	Sudden cold and changes of position can promote leaf loss.
Leaf care	Remove dust with a soft, damp cloth, supporting the leaf as you do so.	Clean leaf surfaces help receive light and make visual checks easier.
Compost	Use stable, well-drained houseplant growing medium.	Roots need air as well as moisture.
Fertiliser	Feed during growth according to instructions; reduce when little growth occurs.	Fertiliser replaces neither light nor healthy roots.
Repotting	If needed in spring, choose a stable pot that is only moderately larger.	A greater mass of leaves increases the need for stable support.
Pruning	Plan shaping in spring; use gloves and surface protection.	White sap can irritate skin and stain surfaces.

Knowledge that grows

A young tree with distinctive foliage

Tineke is a variegated form of the rubber plant *Ficus elastica*. Its leathery leaves combine green inner areas with pale, irregular margins. Young leaves can appear warmer-toned. Each pattern remains a natural feature of the individual leaf. Under suitable conditions, a small potted plant can become a much larger woody plant over the years. This makes the rubber plant a companion whose space should grow with it. It is not, however, already the large indoor tree familiar from mature specimens when delivered.

Two sizes, one plant portrait

The shop lists a small Tineke version in an 11 cm pot, approximately 30 to 40 cm in overall height, and a larger version in a 17 cm pot, approximately 50 to 60 cm. Both belong in this portrait. The new home scene explicitly follows the small version. If you want a larger focal point, choose the shop link labelled accordingly. Price and stock are checked in the offer. A different-coloured rubber plant such as Belize or Abidjan is another variety, not an extra pot size of Tineke.

Light is the first care decision

A bright position protected from intense midday sun is a good starting point. Dark corners are not recommended for vigorous growth, especially for white-variegated plants. Also check whether a curtain or piece of furniture blocks more daylight than expected. After a change of position, watch the plant first instead of changing compost, fertiliser and pot simultaneously. Cold air during winter ventilation and direct proximity to a radiator can often be avoided by a small change in placement.

Recognise water needs in the root ball

Water thoroughly once the upper compost has dried somewhat and the root ball needs water. Allow all excess water to drain. Moisture can develop differently in an 11 cm pot from the larger version, so the same watering day is not automatically suitable for both. Check weight and compost. If the root ball stays wet unusually long, more water and fertiliser will not help. In winter, needs often fall with available light. Continue checking the plant, but provide correspondingly more cautious care.

Leaf care is also a small examination

Support a leaf from below and gently wipe dust away with a soft, damp cloth. This provides a good view of undersides, leaf stalks and new growth. Sticky patches, woolly coatings or very fine webbing deserve closer inspection. Shine products are unnecessary. A damaged old leaf usually remains damaged; what matters is whether new growth looks healthy. Note changes with a date so you do not mistake the same old patch for a new problem at every check.

Let it grow, repot and shape it later

When roots densely fill the pot, move it into a slightly larger container in spring. Free drainage and suitable compost remain important. Over time, large leaves change weight distribution; a narrow surface may then become impractical. If shaping is needed, plan it for spring and wear gloves. Milky sap can irritate and leave stains. A cut above a leaf or node can support branching but does not guarantee a particular crown shape.

Leaf loss calls for checking the cause

A single old lower leaf needs a different assessment from sudden heavy leaf drop. If several leaves are affected, check moisture, light, temperature and possible pests. After moving, the plant needs conditions as stable as possible. Avoid daily changes between different positions. In households with children or animals, do not leave leaves and cut pieces within reach. The rubber plant is ornamental and not intended for eating. Its strength lies in expressive foliage and the pleasure of watching it develop.

Pictures and details

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



Original shop image of the small version: 11 cm pot, approximately 30–40 cm overall height.



Original view of the same small version. Paler leaf areas and markings vary naturally.

Good to know

Does the scene show the 17 cm plant?

No. It was created from the original image of the 11 cm version, approximately 30–40 cm in overall height. The larger version is linked separately in the same portrait.

Why does Tineke lose leaves?

Possible causes include wetness, dryness, cold or little light. Check conditions together; leaf drop alone is not a definite diagnosis.

May I touch the milky sap?

Avoid contact and wear gloves when pruning. Sap can irritate skin and mucous membranes; pets should not nibble the plant either.

The matching offer

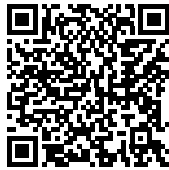
[View plant in the shop](#)

Link to the offer in German. Check the shop for the current price, availability and delivery contents.

[Read the complete portrait in English](#)



English portrait



Shop offer (in German)