

Pet-Safe Kitchen Plants Chart

ASPCA status for cats and dogs for 18 countertop plants, with light and watering notes from our growing guides. Non-toxic doesn't mean a pet should graze on a plant; it means the ASPCA lists it as non-toxic.

Call your vet or the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center, (888) 426-4435, if a pet eats a toxic plant.

PLANT	CATS	DOGS	LIGHT	WATER
Basil <i>Ocimum basilicum</i>	Non-toxic	Non-toxic	6 to 8 hours of bright light, or 12 to 16 hours under a grow light	When the top inch of soil is dry; empty the saucer
Rosemary <i>Rosmarinus officinalis</i>	Non-toxic	Non-toxic	Sunny south window; add a grow light if it gets under 6 hours of sun	Let the top dry, but not the whole pot
Thyme <i>Thymus vulgaris</i>	Non-toxic	Non-toxic	Sunniest south or west window, plus a grow light in winter	Let the mix dry a little between waterings
Sage <i>Salvia officinalis</i>	Non-toxic	Non-toxic	Brightest window or a grow light; needs more light than most herbs	Let the top of the mix dry between waterings
Cilantro <i>Coriandrum sativum</i>	Non-toxic	Non-toxic	At least 5 hours of sun, or grow lights 14 to 16 hours in winter	Evenly moist; dry soil makes it bolt
Dill ^a <i>Anethum graveolens</i>	Non-toxic	Non-toxic	Bright window or an adjustable grow light; avoid hot afternoon sun	Evenly moist, never waterlogged
Lemon balm <i>Melissa officinalis</i>	Non-toxic	Non-toxic	2 to 6 hours of direct sun; an east or west window often works	Lightly moist, never soggy
Mint <i>Mentha species</i>	Toxic	Toxic	About 6 hours of bright light, or 12 to 16 hours under lamps	Moist but never waterlogged
Parsley <i>Petroselinum crispum</i>	Toxic	Toxic	High light in a cool spot; grow lights 14 to 16 hours in winter	Water well and feed regularly
Oregano <i>Origanum vulgare hirtum</i>	Toxic	Toxic	South or west window with at least 5 hours of sun, or a grow light	Let the mix dry between waterings
Chives <i>Allium schoenoprasum</i>	Toxic	Toxic	6 to 8 hours of direct light is best	Evenly moist, without overwatering
Green onions <i>listed as onion, Allium cepa</i>	Toxic	Toxic	A bright, sunny windowsill	Roots under water, top of the bulb above; change it weekly
Lemongrass <i>Cymbopogon citratus</i>	Toxic	Toxic	Warm, bright, sunny spot or a grow light	Plenty of water; don't let the pot dry out
Aloe vera <i>Aloe vera</i>	Toxic	Toxic	At least 6 hours of sun in a south or west window	Soak, then wait until the soil dries; less in winter
Cherry tomatoes ^b <i>listed as tomato plant</i>	Toxic	Toxic	8 to 10 hours of direct sun, or 16 to 18 hours under lights	Let it dry moderately between waterings, never completely
Lettuce ^c <i>Lactuca sativa</i>	Not listed	Not listed	10 to 12 hours in a south or west window, or about 16 under lights	Start in moist mix; use pots with drainage holes and a tray
Chili peppers ^d <i>Capsicum</i>	Not listed	Not listed	Full sun, plus a grow light indoors	Let the top inch or two dry, then water thoroughly
Cat grass ^e <i>wheat or oats</i>	Not listed	Not listed	Direct sun once the seeds sprout	Damp but not wet; too much water causes mold

^a The ASPCA lists dill as non-toxic but notes essential oils in the plant, with dermatitis possible after prolonged contact.

^b The ASPCA lists the tomato plant as toxic because of solanine, and notes that ripe fruit is non-toxic.

^c "Not listed" means we found no entry for the plant in the ASPCA plant database. It is not a safety rating.

^d The ASPCA uses "ornamental pepper" as another name for Jerusalem cherry (*Solanum pseudocapsicum*), a different plant that is toxic to dogs, cats and horses. True peppers are *Capsicum*, so check the label.

^e VCA veterinarians recommend cat grass in moderation: treats, grass included, should be no more than 10% of a cat's calories.

Source: ASPCA Toxic and Non-Toxic Plant List, <https://www.aspcanet.org/pet-care/aspcanet-poison-control/toxic-and-non-toxic-plants> (each plant's ASPCA page). **Checked:** October 20, 2026. Light and watering lines summarize our guides, which cite university extension services. General information, not veterinary advice.