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## Plant Feature: Aralia Fabian



Bring bold sculptural elegance to interiors with the **Aralia Fabian**, a modern tropical standout prized for its upright form, large glossy leaves, and rich, moody coloration. More lush and tropical than many other aralias, Fabian delivers a strong architectural presence while still feeling warm and organic—an ideal balance for contemporary interiors.

#### Why you'll love it:

-  **Upright, Architectural Form with a Lush Tropical Feel:** The Aralia Fabian grows upright with multiple canes, forming a structured yet full canopy. Compared to finer-textured aralias, Fabian feels more tropical thanks to its oversized, rounded leaves and dense foliage. It reads clean and modern, while still bringing richness and depth to a space.
-  **Large, Glossy Leaves with Deep Color:** Fabian is known for its substantial, leathery leaves that emerge glossy and bold. Foliage ranges from deep green to dark burgundy, giving the plant a dramatic, high-end look. In lower light, leaves tend to lighten and shift more green; in higher light, color stays richer and the overall plant looks more robust and finished.
-  **Top-Heavy Growth (Managed Easily):** Because the leaves grow large, Fabian can become top heavy if light is insufficient. The good news: it responds well to pruning. If drooping begins, it can be cut back to restore balance and encourage sturdier regrowth.
-  **Light-Driven Strength & Longevity:** Light level directly affects Fabian's structure. For best longevity and form, Fabian should remain in **bright, indirect light**. While it can tolerate medium light, higher light ensures stronger stems and a longer-lived installation.
  - **High light** produces firmer, woodier stems and a more upright, stable plant that resists drooping.
  - **Medium light** encourages faster stretching, which can cause bending over time.
  - **Low light** results in softer, greener stems and elongated growth.
-  **Low-Maintenance Watering:** Fabian prefers to dry slightly between waterings. Let the soil get dry to the touch before watering again; overwatering is the most common issue. Its thicker leaves help it tolerate occasional missed waterings, making it well suited for commercial and residential interiors.
-  **Excellent Container Performance:** With a non-invasive root system, Aralia Fabian is happy staying in its pot for extended periods. It does **not** require frequent repotting and can remain stable and healthy for years in the same container.

-  **Size:** Typical indoor height: **4–8 feet**. Below are our pot sizes and cane counts based on pot size:
  - 2-gallon: 4 canes
  - 3-gallon: 5 canes
  - 5-gallon: 6 canes
  - 7-gallon: 7 canes

**Additional Names:** Fabian Aralia, Shield Aralia, *Polyscias scutellaria* ‘Fabian’

**Perfect for:**

Modern offices, hospitality spaces, residential living areas, lobbies, corridors, and any design-forward project needing a bold, upright plant with tropical richness and architectural clarity.

**Additional Information:**

Aralia Fabian develops stronger, woodier stems with increased light exposure; similar to the difference between outdoor-grown wood and softer greenhouse growth. In very bright conditions, stems harden and hold their form better, while low light keeps growth softer and more flexible. Primary pest concern is spider mites, especially in dry environments. Regular inspection and good air circulation help prevent issues.






**Grower’s tip:**

- Let soil dry to the touch before watering
- High light = stronger stems, less drooping
- Does not need repotting; happy where it is
- If repotting is desired, wait at least one year
- Can be pruned back if it becomes top heavy

**Pairs well with:**

Lower, softer plants like Pothos, Aglaonema, Philodendron, and compact Dracaenas, which highlight Fabian’s bold leaves and upright structure while adding textural contrast.

**Key characteristics:**

<b>Attribute</b>	<b>Profile</b>
<b>Light</b>	 High
<b>Water</b>	 Medium
<b>Pest Resistance</b>	 Average
<b>Growth Habit</b>	 4-7 Feet
<b>Popularity</b>	 Stable