Staghorn Ferns

Today on Gardening in a Minute: staghorn ferns.

Staghorn ferns, with their beautiful, unusual foliage, are found throughout much of the tropical world.

In their native habitat staghorns thrive as epiphytes, typically growing on tree trunks, branches, or rocks. In the landscape, the ferns are often mounted on a piece of wood, tree fern fiber, or wire basket.

Most staghorn ferns thrive best in partial shade, so hang yours under a tree or on a shaded porch.

You can propagate your staghorn by removing the pups, or small plants, that emerge from the main plant. Establish your new plant with damp spaghnum on a wooden slab or basket. Once it’s established, allow your fern to dry out thoroughly between waterings.

Staghorns thrive in South Florida, and do well in Central and North Florida if protected from freezes.

For more information about staghorn ferns and many other gardening topics, contact your county Extension office or visit Gardening in a Minute dot com.

Gardening in a Minute is a production of the University of Florida’s Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology, IFAS Extension, and WUFT-FM.