A restrained eucalyptus arrangement on an over-toilet shelf

Shelf depth and reach checklist • Free, no signup or purchase.

Place one faux eucalyptus at an end of a stable over-toilet shelf, clear of the tank and controls. The checklist helps you plan the shelf, available reach and stem drop before styling.

What you need

• An over-toilet shelf that is securely mounted or stands steadily, with a known load rating
• One small faux trailing plant you already own, or an optional faux eucalyptus; measure the actual pot and stems
• Tape measure and the free shelf depth and reach checklist (PDF)

Steps

1. Map the shelf

Check the shelf is securely mounted for its actual load, and note its maker's load rating. Measure the shelf depth and width, how high it sits above the cistern lid, and which end you can reach comfortably without leaning over the toilet. Record them on page 2 of the checklist.

2. Keep the toilet clear

Keep the cistern controls, lid and any access panel clear. Plan the plant for a reachable end, set back from the shelf edge and outside the toilet footprint to reduce the risk of objects falling into the toilet.

3. Use one restrained accent

Set the plant at the chosen end and let the stems trail beside the shelf rather than over the cistern or bowl. Measure their actual drop and compare it with the space below. Check the selected option and current total before buying anything.

4. Check upkeep

Keep foliage clear of water, heat and electrical fixtures, and use cleaning methods suited to its materials. Check you can still lift the cistern lid and clean around the toilet without moving the plant.

Tips

• Artificial foliage is decorative. Use separate suitable supports and fixings where needed, rated for the actual surface and load. Keep small parts, cords and vines away from children and pets, and keep access, ventilation and heat clear. Never use an open flame near foliage.
• The free printable is available without signup or purchase. Optional Amazon links are affiliate links.
• If the only clear end would put the stems over the bowl, tuck the stems up or use a nearby wall shelf instead.

FigureNook design and planning guide. Visuals are original AI-generated concept illustrations; review manufacturer specifications, dimensions, and product instructions for final suitability.

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Shelf width × depth

Height of the shelf above the cistern lid

Stated load rating and how the shelf is fixed or stands

End you can reach without leaning over the toilet

Cistern controls, lid and access panel to keep clear

Actual plant size: pot height and width, and stem drop

Distance from the pot to the front edge

What the stems hang beside (not the bowl or cistern)

Before you finish

- [ ] The plant is set back and outside the toilet footprint
- [ ] The cistern lid lifts without moving the plant
- [ ] Stems hang beside the shelf, not over the bowl
- [ ] The total load is within the shelf's stated rating