



Cacti & Succulents

Information and Care

Moisture: Allow soil to dry out almost completely between waterings. Withhold water with desert cacti in the winter months to allow a cooling, dormant period. Once a month watering during the winter months for most cacti is plenty enough! High humidity can cause problems so maintain good air circulation.

Light: Highest light possible. Direct sun is good but remember they will dry out quicker!

Flowering: Yes! They have spectacular blooms. A cool winter period is necessary to force them into bloom. A temperature of 50 - 55 deg. Fahrenheit is ideal during winter months. Put them in the basement by a window since this is probably too cold for you in your living area.

Fertilize: In summer only and three times only (June, July, and August). Recommend cactus fertilizer or a 10-10-10 solution.

Pests: Most susceptible to root rot and crown rot due to overwatering. Will also get root mealybugs and scale. Treat with a systemic insecticide.

Requirements for growing cacti successfully:

- Do not over-water
- Free-draining soil
- A cold and dry resting period (most houses are too warm for cactus in the winter)
- Best kept around 50-55 deg. F.
- Fresh air
- A period outdoors in the summer months

THE CACTUS FAMILY IS DIVIDED INTO TWO GROUPS - THE DESERT CACTI AND THE FOREST CACTI. THE ORIGINAL HOME AND CARE REQUIREMENTS OF THESE TWO GROUPS ARE DIFFERENT.

Desert Cacti

- I Native habitat is the semi-desert regions of America.
- Most cacti belong to this group.
- I Need very little water between mid autumn and early spring.
- I Require as much sunshine as possible. Suitable for south-facing windowsills.
- I Examples: Opuntia sp., Cereus sp., Euphorbia sp., Mammillaria sp., etc.

Forest Cacti

- I Native habitat is the forest regions of tropical America where they grow as epiphytes on trees.
- I Trailing growth habit and flattened leaf-like stems.
- I Need water and occasional feeding during winter months.
- I Require some shade during hottest months of the year. Suitable for north and east facing windowsills.
- I Examples: Christmas Cactus, Easter Cactus, and Orchid Cactus.

SUCCULENTS

Succulents have fleshy leaves that store water. Give Succulents the same care as you would cacti (the cacti are a distinct group of succulents!)

Most succulents have a rosette shape. With age, the stems may become woody, others grow as trailing or bushy plants.

Adding color to your life...inside and out.

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