

growing GUIDE

TEMPERATURE

Succulents and cacti like to be warm in the summer and cooler in the winter.

During the summer their optimum temperature is between 70-90 degrees. Therefore, it is a good idea to put your cacti and succulents outside for the summer if all possible. Outdoor conditions allow your cacti and succulents to recover from being indoors all winter in a non-native condition. In winter, cacti and succulents like to be between 50-70 degrees. That is pretty easy to accomplish indoors.

Another tip: When moving your plants indoors before winter and outdoors for summer, move them when the temperatures outside and inside are similar. This will reduce temperature shock in the transition!

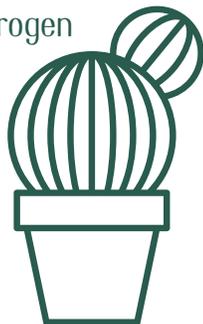
CONTAINERS & SOIL

Cacti and succulents do not have big root systems, so do not put them in large containers! Use a well-drained soil media for them. A good quality cactus soil media is the best for potting and re-potting cacti and succulents.

Use an open top container for terrarium planting to help with humidity control.

FERTILIZING

Cacti and succulents like a low nitrogen fertilizer, enhanced with calcium. So a fertilizer analysis of 1-7-6, with 1% Calcium would do the trick. "Cactus Juice" fertilizer works really well. Apply every 2-4 weeks in summer and every 4-6 weeks in winter.



SUCCULENTS & CACTI



Succulents and cacti are very popular right now and are easy to grow indoors and outdoors in summer. They are nice companions to have after a hard day at work, and they don't talk back either!

All cacti are succulents and they are super easy plants to care for. They don't require a lot, but do need a little attention every now and then.

SUN REQUIREMENTS

Succulents and cacti like lots of light. Indoors in the winter, they need to be in a east, west, or south window. They prefer to be right in the window area, or really close by, so they get a decent amount of direct, natural sunlight. In the summer, they prefer to receive around a ½ day of direct sun. In really hot and intense summers you may have to move them to a little more shade, especially if you notice the leaves burning or fading in color, although this is rare.

Another tip: When moving your plants from indoors to outdoors for the summer, put them in a shady spot for a few days first, then gradually work them to more sun. This will reduce transfer shock and reduce the potential of leaf burn.

WATER REQUIREMENTS

Since cacti and succulents store water in their leaves and stems, they do not need much water. Before watering make sure the soil is very dry. Generally, a decent watering once every 2 weeks in the winter is adequate, and once a week in the summer. This general rule varies depending on the amount of sun or light or cloudy days we have and how windy it is in the summer. Wind really dries out plants, therefore they may need more water during windy periods of time.

