

# CARE GUIDE

## Cacti and Succulents

### LIGHT

**Bright & Direct.** Succulents love light and need about six hours of sun each day, depending on the type of succulent. Newly planted succulents can scorch in direct sunlight, so you may need to gradually introduce them to full sun exposure or provide shade with a sheer curtain.

Also, don't forget to rotate your plants every few days. Succulents will lean towards the sun, so rotating them will help them stand up straight. (Leaning may also be a sign that they need to be in a sunnier spot.)

### WATERING

**Water according to the seasons.** Succulents need more energy when they're in a period of growth. During the spring and summer, the plants are thriving and drinking up much more water than when they're resting in the fall and winter. Test the soil with your finger—when the top 1.25 inches are dry, grab your watering can. Overwatering can kill your succulent, so make sure you let the soil dry between waterings. When you water your succulents, soak the soil until water runs out of the drainage holes. (If your container doesn't have drainage holes, use less water.)

**Don't use a spray bottle** to water your succulents—misting can cause brittle roots and moldy leaves .

### GENERAL CARE

**Choose a pot with drainage.** This helps to prevent overwatering.

**Keep them clean.** Like anything in your home, houseplants collect dust over time. If they don't have spines, you can use a damp rag or paper towel to clean the leaves 1-2 times each year. Use a small, soft paintbrush to get those hard-to-reach spots or work around spines.

**Soil and repotting.** Choose cactus soil or mix potting soil with sand, pumice, or perlite. Succulent roots are very fragile so be gentle when repotting.

**Fertilize seasonally.** Succulents don't need much fertilizer, but you can give them light feedings during the spring and summer growing season.

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