

Cacti & Succulents

A CAROLINA™ CareSheet

Immediate Care and Handling

These plants require minimal care. Watering should be done sparingly. For cacti, allow the soil in the pots to become dry, then water thoroughly and let dry again. Succulents require slightly more watering than do true cacti.

Background

Cacti and succulents are adapted to arid environments. Cacti are native to the Western Hemisphere only. True cacti have thick green stems and lack leaves. They are partly or completely covered with sharp protective spines. Succulents have fleshy leaves and stems and are widely found around the world.

Care and feeding

Cacti

Cacti benefit from a rest period during the winter months. Move the plants to a cool place (if possible) and withhold all water for a 2- to 3-month period during the winter. Formation of flower buds takes place during this period. Feed cacti with a slow-release fertilizer at the end of the rest period.

Succulents

Most succulent plants are native to tropical or subtropical regions and require slightly more water than do true cacti. Active growth takes place as long as adequate water and light are available. Succulents do not always require a rest period as cacti do.

FAQ's

How often should I water my cactus?

Less often than you think. There is no set interval, but as a rule of thumb, allow the soil to completely dry before watering. Overwatering often kills cacti.

I have an aloe plant, and small aloe plants are coming up around it. Can I pot these?

Many succulents and cacti reproduce vegetatively by growing offshoots, often called pups. As soon as the pups have developed roots, they can be removed from the mother plant and potted.

Should I move my cactus to a larger pot?

Most cacti are slow growers and can be left in the same pot for several years. If you do repot your plant, chose a pot that is about a ½" larger in diameter than the original. Some succulents (e.g., aloe) are rapid growers and will have to be repotted or divided frequently.

Problems? We hope not, but if so contact us. We want you to have a good experience.

Orders and replacements: 1-800-334-5551 then select Customer Service

Technical Support and Questions: caresheets@carolina.com



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