

Rex, Begonia Rex

BEGONIA 'REX'

Get to know me

My ancestors originated in the forests of Northern India, but I, like all my cousins am the result of genetic fiddling to make me more awesome! Yeah I flower but it's not much of a show, I put most of my energy into my leaves that will get up to 6 inches long. I am poisonous to your pets; so don't let them eat me.



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What I like



I like a shaded humid spot, if the light is too bright or the humidity too low my leaves will burn so please keep me away from the aircon and out of direct sunlight. I can tolerate fluorescent light.

TEMPERATURE



I'm happy at mild to warm temperatures but I don't handle frost or extreme temperature fluctuations, so keep me inside if you live somewhere really hot during the day and really cold at night.

WATER



I'm quite particular about my water – water me when my pot feels as though it has completely dried out (but don't let me start to wilt), when you water me, water me heavily so there is water pouring out the bottom of my pot, this will help to flush out excess salt. Never let me sit in water.

FERTILIZER



Begin to fertilise me at the start of the growing season with a soluble indoor plant fertilizer at quarter strength. Do this every few weeks until my growth starts to slow down in Autumn.

RE-POTTING



I'll do well in a pot that is a bit small so you won't have to repot me for a few years. When you do repot me use a coarse fast draining mixture so that it doesn't stay soggy.

What I don't like





I will quickly rot if left in continuously soggy soil. If you water me under the tap and you notice the edges of my leaves are starting to get a bit brown and crispy this is probably due to excess salt in the water (a common thing in tap water). The best way to stop this happening is to start watering me with rainwater.



