

Succulent General Care Sheet

Light: Most succulents prefer a sunny location with 4-6 hours of direct sun per day. A western or southern window is ideal. Without enough direct sun, they will grow leggy, floppy, and will fade in color. Vibrant colors only present in good sun exposure. Some options can do very well in less intense sun such as Crassula (Jade), Haworthia and Aloe species.

Water: Most succulents prefer to dry out almost completely between watering. Once dry, water thoroughly. If the soil becomes excessively dry, the water may run over without absorbing. In this case, a more thorough soak in a bowl of water may be necessary (for smaller plants). Succulents typically require less water in the winter. Underwatered succulents will shrivel and grow limp. Overwatered plants will have leaves that typically turn yellow first, then blacken and rot. When in doubt: Always err on the side of too dry versus too wet as it is going to be much easier to remedy.

Environment: Choose a succulent or cactus specific soil mix for adequate drainage. Do not mist or allow your succulent's leaves to get wet, as they do not like high humidity/moist conditions. Avoid temperatures lower than 50 degrees.

Toxicity: Many succulents are non-toxic, but certain varieties such as Euphorbia are, so always check the toxicity of individual plants if that is a concern.

Of Note:

- Succulents are generally found in areas with high temperatures and low rainfall, such as deserts.
- A basic definition of a succulent is a plant that is drought resistant, in which the leaves, stem, or roots have become fleshy by developing watering-storing tissue.
- Succulents can be easily propagated from cuttings or even from a single leaf *When planting in a pot without a drainage hole, avoid over watering by estimating 25% of the container's overall volume, with appropriate drainage materials incorporated when planting.