

We're Here to Help!

We offer a good selection of indoor cacti and succulents year-round.

We are also experienced at making striking cactus or succulent gardens. If you don't see what you want, just ask and we will custom pot something for you.

We will also try to accommodate custom orders for larger sizes upon request. (May require a deposit)

In late Winter and early Spring, you will often see beautiful cactus flowers as many begin to 'show off' during that time period.



Open Year-Round
7 days a week

4955 Austin Bluffs Parkway
80918 * 574-8058

www.phelanguardens.com

- *local gardening information
- *upcoming classes & events
- *what's new at Phelan Gardens

Connect With Us!

Our monthly newsletter is offered via e-mail. Sign up in-store or on our website to receive special offers, class & event updates and seasonal gardening tips.

Follow Us On Social Media



Indoor Cactus & Succulent Care

How to successfully grow cactus & succulents indoors



4955 Austin Bluffs Pkwy
COS, CO 80918
719-574-8058
phelanguardens.com

Care Tips

Light, Water & Feeding

Most indoor cactus and succulents want bright indirect light and low water. Meaning that the plant would prefer to have the soil dry out completely between watering.



It's best to locate your pots in a bright spot that offers very high diffused light to direct sun. Although most want a bright light, Colorado sun

is intense. So, while your plant may be ok in a window certain times of the year, sun scorch may occur during other seasons for some varieties. If this happens, opt for diffused bright light.

The longer you are with your plant the better you will know where it likes to be set as well as how often to water.

Make sure your plants are potted in a soil that drains quickly. Special soil for cacti & succulents contains larger particles (gravel etc.) to help this happen. Also, make sure your pot has drainage holes in the bottom so that roots never sit in water.

Fertilizer—this group of plants typically has low fertility needs. However, if you see a fading of color or yellowing of your plant, you may need to add iron. As well, a very diluted treatment of kelp or seaweed based fertilizer once a month would encourage growth in most succulents.

Environment is Key

Although care is generally low maintenance, problems can arise. These are usually caused by manageable environmental factors. Here are some of the common ailments that indoor cactus and succulents can experience—and solutions for how to treat them.

OVERWATERING – plant is becoming wrinkled or soft; **this is the most common problem with cactus and succulents!!!**

Treatment: reduce watering to only when the soil is bone dry and make sure that the soil mix is a well draining mix with a proper drainage hole in the bottom of the pot

SOFT ROT – discoloration or blackening around the base of the cactus

Caused by: overwatering and/or a common airborne fungus

Treatment: cut off the base all the way to an inch above the affected area, reduce watering to only when the soil is bone dry, and apply a mild fungicide

ROOT ROT – more common among indoor succulents; the plants begin to look wrinkled leading to a falling away or rotting at the base of the plant

Caused by: overwatering or improperly draining soil

Treatment: Reduce watering to only when the soil is bone dry, make sure that the pot has a proper drainage hole at the bottom, change the potting soil to a well draining mix

SUN SCORCH – severe browning or scorched looking marks on only one side of the plant

Caused by: sunlight or a heat source that is too intense OR long periods of dehydration

Treatment: move the pot farther away from the window or heat source

INSECTS – visible markings from insect damage could include:

*white flaky spots

*strange bumps or growths

*residue in the pots not normally associated with the plant (*for the best diagnoses taking a picture or bring the plant into Phelan Gardens*)

Caused by: the plant could have had the larvae already, another plant in the home could be infected, or it is possible the insect travelled in from an outside source.

Treatment: an insect systemic, or if you want to go with the organic treatment a neem oil or horticultural oil. Organic treatments are best applied at the beginning of a problem and may not be sufficient for severe infestations

