



## **Basics of Succulent Care**

Make sure your plant is getting the right balance of the four material elements: Fire (light), Water (water), Air (wind), and Earth (dirt).

Cactus and other succulents love light. Many live directly under the sun. There are some succulents which are more tropical based and live under a canopy of trees, these will want some shade. Watch how the light fills your space to find the best location. Often plants without enough light will grow thin and long, the cacti become cone-headed.

Succulents are known for their water storage habits. They are unlike other plants in that they can hold their breath and water (research CAM plants for more info). However, if you want your plants to grow, they will want water. Cacti and succulents that get a good amount of light should be watered once a week during their growing season.

All plants need some air flow. They can get pests or diseases if they are in stagnant air. If inside, place the plant in a window that opens occasionally or use a fan to give a light breeze. Mealy bugs are common pest for plants that do not have enough air flow. They create small cottony like balls for their eggs. Use a cotton swab with rubbing alcohol to break open the cottony colonies and increase air flow.

DIRT plants come pre-potted in a loving mixture made for most circumstances, so this is one part you don't have to think about.

All in all, these are just basics. For more, there are vast amounts of information on the internet and in books. Plus, there is all the necessary information of experience, so with that keep digging.

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