



Thank you for your purchase! You are allowing me to stay home with my little ones for a bit longer and we all thank you for that!

PLANTING YOUR BOTTLE:

- 1) **UNPACK YOUR PLANTS ASAP.** To see the below steps as a **video** please go to www.YouTube.com and enter in "Looking Sharp Cactus" or type in <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5yZ66YfQ-e5M1pelFqsEjw/videos>
- 2) Carefully unwrap your glass bottle and place over newspaper for easy clean up as you assemble your wine bottle succulent garden kit.
- 3) Layout bags of soil and rocks on your work surface/table. (Not all soil or decorative rock may fit in your planter because I tend to ship you extra.)
- 4) Carefully unwrap plants and lay on the newspaper.
 - Handle your succulents gently. You can cradle their roots in your hand to move them. If holding the roots make sure the plant is well supported and NOT held upside down by the roots. This could cause the roots to separate from the plant.
 - ** Some succulents will lose a few leaves in travel or when handled. Just let the leaf dry for a day then you can plant full sized leaves broken tip down in well-draining soil or simply lay them on the top of the soil. Not every leaf will grow a new plant but many will and you will have several FREE new plants! Plant leaves in a separate container and leave in dry soil until roots start to grow. Once roots start you can water them. Root may appear like small pink hairs. When they have grown larger only water them when the soil is completely dry. Succulent leaves root best in spring, summer and fall. Keep them warm and sunny for best results. **
 - Some soil will be loose and could be on your plants after their travels. Just blow lightly to remove loose soil from leaves. (Best done after plant is in planter.)
- 5) With bottle garden over newspaper, place plants in the positions that suit you or those shown in the above pictures.
- 6) Once plants are in place use your hands to add soil around them. Use a pencil or small stick to GENTLY maneuver soil in any tight crevices. Be careful not to poke the plant's roots too much.
- 7) Press down on the surface of the soil so soil will be firmly packed and not loose. Don't press too firmly since this is a glass bottle and you don't want to put pressure on the glass. Just firmly enough so the soil will hold up the plants.
- 8) Now that the plants are in the planter you can ever so gently trickle water on to each plant and the soil surface to help the soil settle more. This may allow you to add more soil. You do not need to add all the soil that comes with your planter. I like to give you extra soil just in case.
- 9) Most planters come with a drainage slit in the bottle of the bottle. If you ordered a bottle without a drainage slit simply tip the planter SLIGHTLY so that excess water runs out the mouth of the bottle into the sink or outside. You may need to cover the mouth of the bottle slightly when you do this to keep the soil inside.



- 10) Now you are ready to add your decorative rock, moss, marbles, crushed shells... on top of the soil by placing each rock with your fingers and maneuvering them with your pencil into place. You can slightly press the rocks into the soil to help them stay in place. Do this carefully since this is a glass planter and you don't want to add stress to the planter's walls.

CARING FOR YOUR GARDEN:

Watering Your Garden:

- Succulents are VERY tough plants but you can kill them by over OR under watering them. It's a misconception that succulents don't need much water. To encourage healthy roots completely soak all of the soil. Then allow the soil to completely dry out before you water again. You can use a moisture meter or even a pencil to see if the soil is dry all the way down. Only water your new succulent friends when the soil is dry all the way to the bottom of the planter. Your planter will feel lighter once all the water is gone and then it's time to water again.
- You can rot succulents by over watering them. So allow the soil to dry between waterings. When in doubt don't water! It's best to keep your plants a little dehydrated than to kill them with kindness/water! It's also easier to save a plant that is under-watered than to save a plant you over watered.
- Do NOT water with a spray bottle! If you water by spraying you will create thin roots that die easily and you will likely underwater.
- Start with watering once a week. Then adjust slowly. Water less often in the winter and more often in the summer/heat.
- Overwatered? The leaves fall off easily or look yellow/transparent/mushy or wet. Black around stem/leaves can be rot.
- Under watered? Leaves may look limp/soft/wrinkled especially on the top/new growth. It's normal for the older/bottom leaves to die as the plant goes through its life cycle. If many leaves are drying up you may need to increase how often or how deep you are watering.
- There are guides, with photos, on the internet to show you what plants that are over and under watered look like. You can find helpful articles about succulents, with great pictures, on my friend Cassidy's website <http://www.succulentsandsunshine.com/>



Lighting / Where to Grow My Garden:

- Succulents prefer filtered but very bright light. If the light is not bright enough succulents will turn green/discolor and elongate to reach the light. Some colorful species may lose their bright colors without enough light or due to time of year/temperatures. Most succulents can tolerate full sunlight but some can sunburn with full afternoon sun on a hot day. Place in a location that is sunny part of the day (10+ hours of bright indirect sunlight). Most succulents prefer morning and or evening sunlight then full or partial shade (50% shade) during the afternoon. Succulents from a greenhouse or those that have been growing inside may need to slowly be given more sunlight.
- Places to place your garden - A sunny tabletop, kitchen window, sunny desktop, under a grow light... You can also place your planter on a covered WARM patio with mostly indirect sunlight.
- Protect your succulent babies from extreme hot and cold temperatures. Succulents will freeze if left in a cold area.
- If all goes well your succulents should provide happiness for weeks to months. Even longer if you have a green thumb! And you can always add new plants.

Enjoy and feel free to email me with any question or suggestion! LookingSharpCactus@gmail.com

If you would like 15% off your next order (before shipping) just post a picture of your new planter with your Etsy review or place on my Facebook page. Then email me for a coupon code.

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