

Caring for Cacti & Succulents

3352 N Service Dr.
Red Wing, MN 55066
www.sargentsnursery.com
P: 651-388-3847
E: sargents@sargentsnursery.com



Succulents and cacti come in an amazing variety of shapes, sizes and colors. There are literally 1,000s to choose from! They are some of the easiest to maintain plants with low care requirements and few problems or pests.

Location & Light

Cacti and succulents are bright light plants and can take direct sunlight. Although they are great indoor plants, they also thrive outdoors during our summer months. Five to six hours of direct light is ideal. This can be a challenge during our Minnesota winters where supplemental lighting may be needed to keep plants in good health.

Selecting Plants

These unique plants can be grown many ways. Cactus and succulents can be grown as a single plant specimen in its own container. Several of these individual plantings can be displayed together or you can also combine several plants in a single pot. Mix and match different varieties and colors, combining both cactus and succulents for a spectacular display.

When planting use a soil mixture made specifically for cactus and succulents. Excellent drainage is very important. You can also use regular potting mix, adding half coarse sand to improve drainage.

Accent the planting with rocks, pebbles, seashells or branches to make your garden unique. A top dressing of sand or small pebbles will also give your garden that desert look.

Watering

Desert plants prefer to be on the dryer side, needing water only every two or three weeks. Be sure to let these plants dry out completely before watering and check the moisture before watering. Water the soil thoroughly and allow to drain completely making sure that no water is left in the saucer you may be using to catch excess water.

In late fall and into winter, water plants just enough to prevent shriveling of the stems or leaves. These plants also do well with low humidity making them well suited to most home environments.

Fertilizing

A specific cactus fertilizer or all purpose houseplant fertilizer both work well during the growing season. The potting mix drains easily which allows nutrients to leech out of the soil. Regularly fertilize according to the directions of the fertilizer you are using. Do not fertilize in the winter months when light levels are lower and plant growth is very minimal.