



# All About Succulents

In this flyer we will be addressing general succulent requirements such as light, watering, temperature, repotting, soil, fertilizing, and common issues that come with caring for a succulent/cactus. We will be talking about the average succulent, each plant type may have different requirements. If you have further questions please contact an employee in the greenhouse, or email Terra at [terrac@roundrockgardens.com](mailto:terrac@roundrockgardens.com)

**Light Requirements:** Succulents love their light so make sure your succulent is at least getting bright indirect light. Texas has some very intense light and most succulents can't take the full sun without getting a little sunburnt. I find that a part sunny window or area is perfect for succulents and cacti. You can always tell if your succulent needs more light if it starts to grow leggy, and is reaching towards the sunlight.

**Water Requirements:** The most important rule to following while caring for succulents is do not over water them! These plants have a special systems and can store the water in their roots, stems, or leafs. Try to use water that's been sitting out for forty-eight hours or rain water to water. Harsh tap water and softened water can burn the leafs. When outdoors you may need to water your plant every two weeks. Indoors you may need to water once a month. This really depends on how dry it gets and the temperatures outside and inside your house. When your plant is over watered you'll start to notice the bottom leafs yellowing and becoming mushy. When your plant is under watered you'll notice the leafs starting to wrinkle and dry up a bit. If you are unsure bring your plant into the store or show us a couple of pictures! We'll be able to figure out the problem and hopefully get your plant on its way to recovery.

**Temperature Requirements:** Temperatures range different for each succulent type. Some are a lot more resilient than others, and can handle the cold and freezing temperatures no problem! Other succulents need warmer weather and need to stay indoors if

temperatures get below 50 degrees F. Check your plants requirements before planting or leaving it outside in cold weather.

**Fertilizing:** Succulents are light feeders and do not need to be fertilized near as much as you average plant. When you do fertilize your succulent, I would use Microlife multipurpose 6-2-4 or Microlife super seaweed. Make sure when fertilizing you are only using organic, chemicals can through off your plants natural bloom cycle.

**Repotting:** When repotting your succulent make sure it's root bound. Never go into a pot larger than two inches around the side and on the bottom. Too much unused soil could cause root rot.

Your new pot should have at least one drainage hole so your plant doesn't drown. If your plant doesn't have a drainage hole put a layer on rocks on the bottom so the roots don't sit in water and drown. Even if your plant has a drainage hole I recommend putting a layer on rock on the bottom.

**Soil:** Succulents will grow in just about anything! The most important thing in succulent soil is good drainage. A thin sandy, rocky soil is perfect. I like to make a mix of tropical potting soil with sand and a little bit of pebbles. Using cactus promix is always a good choice as well, I just like to add some pebbles or perlite for drainage. Make sure to always put a layer of rock on the bottom of your pot so the soil doesn't clump, and your plant doesn't sit in water.

## Common Issues:

- **Pests:** Succulents attract many pests but some of the most common are mealy bug, and spider mite. If you see any sign of these pests act immediately, they can quickly spread and kill your succulent.
- **Light:** When your succulent starts to stretch and look leggy that means it needs more light. Try giving your succulent at least part sun to keep its normal shape. Bright indirect light might not be enough for certain succulents types. The plant will not shrink back down to original size.
- **Water:** If your plant starts to get mushy and yellow/clear, that means it's getting over watered. If you plant starts to wrinkle that means it's not getting enough water. Damage is irreversible to existing leaves.
- **Sunburn:** When your succulent get too much light or sun it will start to turn colors! The color will be a dark reddish color, maroon, burgundy, or brown. Try giving your plant a little less sunlight and check your new growth for the original color.