



LANDSCAPE · NURSERY · GARDEN CENTER

Indoor Plant Care FLESHY SUCCULENTS

The fleshy succulents are plants that have thick, water-retaining stems that help them survive in deserts and other very dry habitats. In both form and ancestry they are a diverse group; they include species from quite a few families of flowering plants. Some succulents are essentially leafless; other have leaves that may naturally fall away during the plant's dry season.

How to Care for Your Plant:

LIGHT: Direct and preferably day-long sunlight (as provided by an unobstructed southern window). (The only exception to this rule is if your plant is a haworthia. Haworthias prefer bright *indirect* sunlight). Succulents will often survive for extended periods in sites with lower light levels, but they probably will not thrive or flower.

WATERING: During the plant's active growth or flowering, water when the soil surface becomes completely dry. During the plant's dormant phase (usually in winter), water very, very sparingly--once every month, or when the plant shows signs of shrinking or "deflating" due to low water content. When you do water, drench the soil thoroughly: at least a little water should come out of the pot's bottom drainage holes. However, the plant should not stand in saucer water for more than ten minutes.

FEEDING: Feed sparingly, even when the plant is growing actively. Use a cactus food at half the recommended concentration and frequency listed in the product directions.

POTENTIAL PROBLEMS: Overwatering may promote root rot, a disease that is difficult to arrest.