

Must-Know Tips for Indoor Succulent Success

What you'll learn

Succulents can be great house plants, but a few simple tips will help ensure you have an enjoyable experience and happy plants. In this guide you'll learn:

- How much light succulents need indoors
- Which succulents love growing indoors
- The best soil to ensure your succulents don't rot

Plenty of light



How much light?

Succulents indoors need at least 6-8 hours of very bright indirect sunlight.

Place it near the brightest window in your home that gets sunlight all day.

What about grow lights?

A grow light is a great way to give your succulent more light. Use a daylight-balanced fluorescent or LED bulb.

Run the grow light at the same time the plant is getting natural daylight.

Why is my succulent stretching?

Your succulent will stretch out or turn toward the light source when it isn't getting enough light. Add a grow light, or use a brighter grow light, to prevent more stretching.

A perfect indoor succulent

Choosing a succulent that will thrive indoors will help eliminate potential problems. A succulent that does well indoors is one that is:

- Slow growing
- · Green in color
- Prefers cool temperatures
- · Prefers growing in full shade

Below are two examples of succulents that fit into this category.



Haworthia fasciata "Zebra Plant"

Haworthia fasciata is an easy to care for succulent that tolerates low light. It produces new offsets frequently that can be pulled off and planted elsewhere. It is not cold hardy.

This succulent is a great option if you are new to succulents and if you are growing indoors.



Gasteria 'Little Warty'

Gasteria 'Little Warty' is a succulent that likes less water than other succulents. Unlike many succulents, it isn't dormant in the winter, and grows well indoors in lower light conditions.

Succulents to avoid

A few varieties of succulents that won't do well indoors include:

- Most Echeveria
- Graptopetalum paraguayense "Ghost Plant"
- Most cacti (columnar cactus do ok, but not great, indoors)

Fast drying soil



What soil is best for indoor succulents?

There are 3 components to a good soil for indoor succulents. They are:

- Large particles about 1/4" or 6mm
- Mostly rock or inorganic material
- Retains some water but dries quickly

What about bagged succulent mix?

Unless you mix it at least half and half with a rock material like pumice, it won't dry out quickly enough for succulents indoors.

Instead, purchase a fast draining mix like <u>this one from</u> <u>Bonsai Jack</u> (pictured left).

Why does it matter?

Succulents grown indoors don't get as much air circulation as those grown outdoors. For this reason, the soil doesn't dry out as quickly.

Succulents sitting in wet soil for too long will begin to rot, quickly killing the succulent.

Learn More

Now you know how much light your succulents need to be happy indoors. You also have an idea of a few succulents that will love the indoor environment and what soil they should be planted in.

These are the essentials, but a good foundation for watering, pot selection, diagnosing problems, dealing with pests, and choosing a grow light will also help your succulent have the best life possible indoors.

I cover all these topics in depth in my course, <u>Successfully Growing Succulents</u>.

Click here to learn more and help your indoor succulents thrive!