## ☆Mahoney's

#### HOUSEPLANT CARE GUIDES

Cactaceae

# CACTI

#### **REGION OF ORIGIN**

North and South America

### **Ö** LIGHT

Cacti thrive in bright, direct sunlight and need at least 4–6 hours of sun per day to stay healthy. A south- or west-facing window is ideal. Insufficient light can lead to weak, leggy growth and poor overall health.



For Cacti, we recommend using fertilizers like Espoma Organic Cactus Plant Food, Jack's All Purpose, or Organic Plant Magic. These options provide essential nutrients to keep your plants vibrant and thriving.



#### SOIL

To ensure your cactus thrive, we recommend using a mixture of 2/3 Rooted Goods All-Purpose Potting Mix or Uncle Mike's Organic Potting Mix with 1/3 coarse garden sand, perlite, or small pre-rinsed gravel. Another great option is Espoma's Organic Cactus mix.

#### L TEMPERATURE

Cacti prefer warm temperatures between 65–85°F (18–29°C). They can tolerate cooler temperatures down to 50°F (10°C), but prolonged cold exposure should be avoided. Protect them from drafts and temperature swings.



Most cacti can be propagated from cuttings or offsets. Let cuttings dry and callous over for several days, then place them in dry cactus mix. Roots usually form within a few



Many cacti are considered nontoxic, but their spines can cause injury to curious pets. Keep them out of reach or opt for pet-safe, spineless alternatives. Always check specific varieties for toxicity.



Water only when the soil is completely dry. During the growing season (spring and summer), this may mean watering every 2–3 weeks. In fall and winter, water even less frequently. Ensure your pot has proper drainage and always empty the saucer after watering to prevent root rot.



Cacti are generally pest-resistant but can occasionally attract mealybugs, scale, or spider mites. Check around the base and in crevices. If pests appear, treat promptly with natural or chemical remedies. Overwatering is the most common issue—watch for soft spots or yellowing.

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