

# Succulents

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Fact Sheet  
Residential Horticulture - 029  
UF/IFAS Extension Orange County

Succulents are Florida-Friendly plants because they are drought-tolerant and low maintenance. Succulents store water in their leaves and stems with their fleshy water storage structures to help them withstand long periods with no water. There are approximately 10,000 species of succulents worldwide in over 60 different plant families.

## Caring for Succulents

### Water

Succulents are designed to store water for a very long time. Let the plant and soil almost completely dry out before watering. Watering once a month is sufficient for most types.

### Soil

Succulents prefer well drained soil. You can purchase a special succulent soil blend or make your own by starting with potting mix and adding some sand and perlite.

### Light

Look up specific requirements of the succulents you choose. Part sun is generally suitable for most succulent species. Some, like cactus, may prefer full sun. If you plan to keep the plants indoors, place them next to a window to get some light and rotate the pot periodically.

## Propagation

Many succulents can be grown from cutting. They can be propagated from stem cutting, leaf cutting or division. For stem cuttings, insert them into a well-drained potting mix in a small pot. Leaf cuttings should be placed on top of the potting mix. Plants propagated from division can be planted directly in the ground or in pots.

## Major types of succulents include:

- Aeonium
- Agave
- Aloe
- Bulbine
- Cactus
- Crassula
- Crown of thorns
- Desert Rose
- Echeveria
- Euphorbia
- Graptopetalum
- Kalanchoe
- Sedum
- Sempervivum



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