Aloe Vera
*Aloe barbadensis*

The Aloe plant is one of the most commonly kept houseplants. Although there are over three-hundred Aloe species, Aloe vera is perhaps the most popular due to its reputed skin-soothing nature. The gel found in the leaves is used for soothing minor burns, wounds, and various skin conditions like eczema and ringworm. Aloe is a good plant for a beginning gardener since it doesn't require much water or attention and can be grown for years in a pot. When grown outdoors, Aloe vera produces showy yellow or red flowers on stalks that emerge in late winter or spring; plants grown indoors will rarely bloom. Can be grown outside year-round in zones 8-11 but is injured by frost in north Florida.

**Type:** perennial

**USDA hardiness zones:** 8 through 11

**Uses:** border; mass planting; container or above-ground planter; naturalizing; accent

**Origin:** not native to Florida

**Height:** 2 to 3 feet  
**Spread:** 1 to 3 feet

**Plant spacing:** 24 to 36 inches

**Light requirement:** full sun to part sun

**Soil tolerances:** slightly acid to alkaline; clay; sand; loam

**Drought tolerance:** high

**Soil salt tolerances:** high

**Invasive potential:** low

**Pest resistance:** susceptible to caterpillars

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