Caring for Sansevieria

Also known as Snake Plant.

Long, spear-shaped leaves, often with interesting patterns of dark and light or a contrasting edge, are the hallmark of this popular and nearly indestructible houseplant. Fantastic as easy-care houseplants or office plants, Sansevieria is also a great choice for an outdoor summer container if you have bright shade.

Light:

Sansevierias prefer bright conditions out of direct sun, but will tolerate medium to low light.

Water:

Water when the soil is dry. In low light conditions and in the winter you can allow the soil to become very dry. Over watering may cause root disease that can be difficult to recover from.

Sansevieria leaves are normally quite rigid. If soil is dry and the leaves feel soft or give a little when pinched, the plant is too dry and should be watered.

Fertilize in spring and summer with any general purpose fertilizer suitable for houseplants. Feeding at a dilute rate (usually ¼ strength) at every watering gives great results, and you don't have to remember the last time you fertilized, very helpful if you water infrequently. Do not fertilize in winter.

Temperature & Humidity:

Regular home temperatures are fine for Sansevierias. They can tolerate temperatures down to 40°F and over 100°F for short periods. Sansevierias tolerate any humidity levels.

Repotting:

Repot when the plant becomes out of proportion to the container. Sansevierias are more tolerant than most plants of being root-bound but soil should be refreshed at least every several years.



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