

Inspiration: Indoor Mini Succulent Garden



Indoor gardening provides a welcome reprieve during the long, gloomy winter days. Cacti and succulents are resilient plants that thrive in small pots and require minimal care.

This tabletop activity offers several benefits, including enhancing fine motor skills and stimulating the senses, particularly sight and touch. It also boosts self-esteem and provides an opportunity to engage in nurturing by caring for your miniature garden.

Step 1: Gather Your Materials

- Succulents and cacti plants
- Small bowls or cups
- Cactus compost (or a mix of houseplant compost and perlite)
- Optional: decorative stones
- Small watering can

Visit garden centres for a diverse selection of small succulents and cacti. Opt for plants with contrasting shapes and colours to create immediate visual appeal in your garden arrangement.

Step 2: Preparing Your Plants

Cacti and succulents thrive in dry conditions; however, if the compost of your purchased plants is excessively dry, immerse them in a dish of water for soaking before potting.



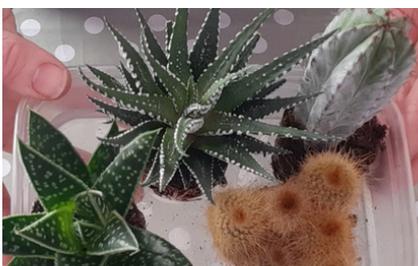
Step 1



Step 1



Step 2



Step 2



Step 3



Step 4

Step 3

Use succulent compost, or create a mix by combining general houseplant compost with perlite in a ratio of 2 parts compost to 1 part perlite.

Step 4

These plants require excellent drainage, so be sure to add a layer of fine gravel at the bottom of the planting container.

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Step 5



Step 6



Step 7



Step 8



Step 9



Step 10

Step 5. Position the individual plants, ensuring there is enough space for each to grow.

Step 6. Use a spoon to carefully scoop compost around the plants' root balls. Remember, some succulents and cacti can be jaggy to the touch. Kitchen tongs can be useful for holding spiny cacti whilst planting.

Step 7. With your forefinger and thumb, gently press the compost around the necks of the plants to create a solid connection with the compost.

Step 8. Use a small paintbrush to remove any excess compost that may be stuck between the sturdy leaves or clinging to the cactus spines.

Step 9. Use a fine water spray to thoroughly moisten the compost.

Step 10. Place decorative stone over the compost surface to give a finished and more authentic look to the mini garden.

Caring for Your Mini Succulent Garden. Succulents predominantly originate from arid areas, allowing them to store water in their fleshy stems, which means they require minimal watering.

- If the stems feel **firm** to the touch, they do not need any water.
- If they feel **soft** and **wilty**, it's time to water them.

These plants thrive in a sunny location with little to no humidity, so be sure to keep them away from the bathroom!

Give your plants a vacation! During warm summer days, let your mini garden enjoy a few days of fresh air outdoors.

