

OUT OF THE BOX

DESERT ROSE

Your plants are shipped in grower's pots and should be transplanted into larger pots or into the ground as soon as is convenient. Once planted they may take 4-6 weeks, depending upon the weather and other environmental conditions, to become established and start showing new growth. You can be assured they will begin setting roots and start growing very soon after planting. Please plant as soon as possible, provide reasonable care, and be patient.



We urge you to plant your new arrivals as soon as possible. In the event planting must be delayed due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances, roll the plastic bag that is around the plant down and place in or near a bright window.

The foliage on potted plants may appear wilted or yellow upon receipt. This is nothing to worry about. Water the plant thoroughly then gently remove any foliage that doesn't "perk up".

We strongly recommend planting in a container for maximum performance and enjoyment.

Quality of light is extremely important to this plant. It needs plenty of sunshine to thrive and flower. Four to five hours of direct sun each day in front of an east, west, or south window encourages this succulent to flower. The Desert Rose also does well in very bright light without a lot of direct sun but it won't bloom as often or as profusely.

Position Desert Rose in full sun or some afternoon shade for best flowering. Place your plant outdoors in summer and indoors with as much light as possible in winter.

***Image on cover is representative of the type of plant(s) in this offer and not necessarily indicative of actual size or color for the included variety.**

Thank you for your order

PLANT WARRANTY

We warrant perennials for 1 year and annuals for 90 days from the time of the original shipment. If for any reason you are dissatisfied, we will replace your plant with a similar or comparable one, at no charge. If your replacement is not available or it is too late in the season to ship, it will reship the following shipping season.

CAUTION: Not all plant material is edible.

Though most plants are harmless, some contain toxic substances which can cause headaches, nausea, dizziness, or other discomforts. As a general rule, only known food products should be eaten. In case of ingestion, please contact your local poison control center at once and advise them of the plant ingested.

Keep out of reach of children.

DESERT ROSE



QUICK REFERENCE PLANTING GUIDE

LIGHT/SUN EXPOSURE	Full to partial sun.
USDA HARDINESS ZONES	Not winter hardy. Will thrive from Spring to fall in all zones. We recommend planting in a container so you can move the plant to a protected area (somewhere that doesn't freeze) before the first frost.
PLANT TYPE	Annual/Tropical.
PLANTING DISTANCE IN-GROUND	4 feet apart.
CONTAINER SIZE	One plant per 10-inch or larger container. Transplant into larger container as needed.
MATURE HEIGHT / SPREAD	In-ground 2 feet tall with a spread of 3 feet wide. The mature size is determined by how often you repot to a larger container. Its size can be held back.
BLOOM TIME	Early summer to fall.

SOIL PREPARATION

We recommend planting in a container for maximum performance and enjoyment. For gardeners who choose to plant in the ground we recommend having your soil tested periodically by your local County Extension Office (www.csrees.usda.gov/extension or by calling 1-800-333-4636). These tests can determine if the soil needs any amendments to enhance your plants' growth and performance. See below for our recommended practice to improve your soil without any additional testing:

1	Spade or till the soil to a depth of 12-18 inches.
2	To provide nutrients and improve drainage, add organic matter to your soil by mixing in a 2 to 4-inch layer of dehydrated manure, garden compost, shredded leaves, and/or peat moss.
3	After active growth begins, periodically feed with a water soluble fertilizer. Plants in containers need more frequent watering and feeding, especially when in active growth and bloom.

PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS

It is very important to thoroughly rehydrate the plant and its surrounding soil before planting so it may properly adapt to its new location. We recommend submersing the root zone of the plant in a container of water for 2-3 minutes while you prepare for planting.

We strongly recommend planting your plant in a container for maximum performance and enjoyment. Use the instructions below as a guide for container planting.

- A** Fill the container with soil to within 4 inches of the top. Remove the plastic container and loosen up roots that have encircled the growing pot. Dig a hole in soil to insert the lower part of the root ball.
- B** Once the plant is positioned at the proper planting depth, begin filling the hole with soil. Work the soil around the root ball with your hands. When the hole is half filled, tamp the soil to remove any air pockets.
- C** Water well and, if necessary, adjust the plant so it is upright. Add additional soil to bring the level back up to the original soil line. Never insert the plant lower than the original top of the soil ball.



CONTINUING CARE

WATERING Water your Desert Rose the same way you water other succulent type plants. During the growing season, allow the top layer of soil to dry out moderately between each watering and then water thoroughly until the soil is well saturated and excess water drains out of the drainage holes at the bottom of the container. Never allow your plants to sit in a saucer of water. Pots may be kept in saucers **AFTER** the water has drained from the pot.

Your plant needs less water during the winter months, especially when kept cool.

Increase water during growing and blooming periods. The plant will lose leaves if overwatered.

CONTINUING CARE (Continued)

MULCHING	Apply a 2-4 inch layer of shredded bark, compost or other organic mulch around your plants to promote moisture retention, maintain even soil temperatures, and to discourage weed growth.
PRUNING	Prune after the rest period, usually around March. New shoots can be pruned regularly. The sap is toxic so clean your hands after pruning and avoid getting sap into open wounds or eyes.
FEEDING	Feed your plants once every 2-3 weeks during the growing season with a water soluble fertilizer. Discontinue feeding after September 1st so your plants can harden off for winter dormancy. Resume fertilizing when new growth appears in the spring.
WINTERIZING	Plants should be grown in containers and moved to a protected area (somewhere that doesn't freeze) before the first frost in your area. When you bring your plant indoors for the winter, select a room that is bright, preferably one with a southern exposure. Indoors, plants tend to dry out from lack of humidity; however; this does not mean to water them daily. Bathrooms, especially those with a southern exposure, will provide a naturally humid environment for your plants. If you place your plant in any other room, you can boost the humidity level around your plant by filling a shallow tray with gravel and water then placing the pot in the tray. The water level should be slightly below the gravel so that the pot is not submerged in the water. You may also use a spray bottle to mist the plant with water once a week. All other watering and feeding indoors should be reduced significantly. Do not over water or allow your plants to sit in water. Follow these simple steps and remove unsightly or dead growth over the winter, to extend your plant's performance. In the spring when temperatures begin to rise, ease the plant into a full watering schedule and move back outdoors for the summer.