



For the joy of gardening!

Estabrook's

CROWN OF THORNS CARE GUIDE

LIGHT

Place crown of thorns (*Euphorbia milii*) in a very bright, sunny location. Good light supports flowering and sturdy growth. Introduce stronger sunlight gradually after purchase or a move. Protect shade-grown foliage from a sudden blast of hot midday sun.

WATERING

Let the upper part of the potting mix dry before watering thoroughly. Allow excess water to drain and empty the outer pot or saucer. Avoid a permanently soggy root ball. Water less when light or growth declines; some leaf drop can occur during a resting period.

SOIL

Choose a freely draining cactus and succulent mix and a pot with drainage holes. Avoid a large pot that holds wet mix around a small root system. Repot carefully when needed. The stems carry sharp thorns, so protect your hands and keep the plant stable while working.

TEMPERATURE

Keep in a warm, frost-free room, away from cold drafts, cold window glass and direct heater blasts. Ordinary household humidity is suitable. Good air circulation and a drying cycle help keep roots healthy. Protect the plant from cold during winter travel.

FERTILIZING

Feed lightly with a diluted succulent or flowering-houseplant fertilizer while actively growing, following label directions. Reduce feeding while the plant rests. More fertilizer will not compensate for poor light or wet roots. Remove fallen leaves and spent material carefully, avoiding the thorny stems.

PESTS & HANDLING

Watch for scale, mealybugs and mites; isolate affected plants before treatment. Wear gloves and eye protection when pruning or repotting. The milky sap can injure skin and eyes, and the plant is harmful if eaten. Keep thorns and sap away from children and pets.