



For the joy of gardening!

Estabrook's

EASTER CACTUS CARE

LIGHT

Easter cactus (*Rhipsalidopsis*) is a tropical forest cactus with spring flowers. Give it bright, indirect light, protecting the flattened stems from scorching direct sun. A bright east-facing window is suitable. Avoid treating it like a desert cactus in a hot, dry, full-sun location.

WATERING

Let the top inch of potting mix dry before watering thoroughly. Allow excess water to drain and empty the saucer. Keep the root zone lightly moist during active growth and flowering, reducing water during the cooler rest period. Avoid both waterlogging and prolonged complete dryness.

SOIL

Use an airy, well-drained mix suitable for epiphytic cacti, such as a loose houseplant mix with fine bark and perlite. Choose a pot with drainage holes. Repot only when crowded, preferably after flowering. Avoid repotting or making major changes while buds and flowers are present.

TEMPERATURE & HUMIDITY

Normal room temperatures around 60-70°F and moderate humidity suit active growth. Keep away from hot vents, cold drafts and frost. Gentle air movement helps. Sudden changes in temperature or location, especially when buds are present, can cause them to drop.

FERTILIZING

Feed lightly during active growth with a low-nitrogen houseplant fertilizer, following label directions. Do not fertilize while resting or in full bloom. Inspect stem joints for mealybugs and isolate infested plants before treating with a product labeled for sensitive cactus foliage.

REBLOOMING

Encourage spring flowering with a cool, bright winter location and long, uninterrupted nights for about 8-12 weeks. Keep just moist during this rest, without allowing stems to shrivel badly. Once buds form, increase water slightly and maintain steady conditions until flowers open.