

Spring Plant Care Checklist



Clean

While you should be wiping down your plants' leaves regularly, Spring is a great time to give your plants a more thorough bath.

Check for health or pest issues by carefully examining the both sides of the leaves, run water through the soil to reduce salt buildup, and scrub any mold off terracotta pots or lime deposits.



Prune

Light pruning, dead branches, and yellow leaves can be removed at any time of the year, but save your bigger pruning projects for spring while the plant is actively growing. Pruning increases airflow which can prevent disease, eliminate places for pests to hide.

Trim leggy vines and shape according to your preference using clean tools and gloves for spines or plants that can cause irritation (like Ficus).



Fertilize

Only fertilize when plants are actively growing to prevent fertilizer burn or salt buildup and make sure to choose the right fertilizer for each plant, some may need special ingredients, etc.

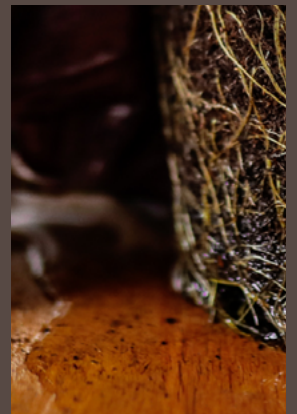
Always follow instructions on the bottle. Over-fertilizing causes more harm than under. The first fertilizer of the year should be more diluted (or you can burn your plant) and go from there!



Adjust Watering

Check that when you are watering, your soil is getting thoroughly saturated.

Adjust your watering now that your plant is actively growing—more light and warmer temps may change watering needs.





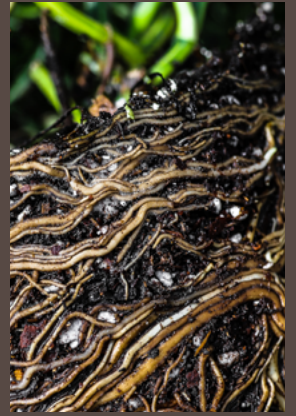
Aerate Soil

Poking holes into the soil makes it easier for roots to dry out, allows for air to reach roots, and breaks down hardened soil so that the water can drain easier and faster. You might hit some roots, that's ok!



Repot if Needed

Try to repot in the spring or early summer, giving plants enough time to grow into their new soil (excess soil makes it more difficult to control moisture around roots). Choose a pot that is only slightly bigger, with drainage holes, use a cachepot if there are no holes. Choose soil that fits the plant (cactus vs. regular potting).





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