

# How to Water Your Plants

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Always apply sufficient water to wet the entire root and soil system, allowing the water to drain out of the pot. This is the correct way to water whether you are watering a tropical plant or a cactus.

By adding water slowly, you can be sure to thoroughly wet the soil. Remove excess drainage water from the saucer; do not allow the plant to sit in water for more than a few minutes.

If you usually water a plant by allowing it to sit in water and absorb water through the drain holes, periodically water from the top – the soil surfaces – to flush out mineral and fertilizer salts.

### When to Water

Water when the plant needs it, not just every Saturday or when it's most convenient.

Plants require water at different frequencies depending on sunny or cloudy conditions, temperature and whether the plant is in an active growth phase.

Plants that want to be evenly moist should be watered when the top inch or two of soil is dry. Do not allow soil to become bone-dry.

Plants that like to be on the dry side should be watered when most or all of the soil in the pot is dry.

Some plants, like cacti, are happiest when their soil is dry for extended periods between waterings.



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