



Nook & Nature

By Neha Kunal Deshmukh

Plant Care Guide

Simple steps for healthy , happy plants



Cactus Cathedral

(Euphorbia trigona)

The Cactus Cathedral is a unique succulent with a distinctive, cactus-like appearance. It features upright, columnar stems with sharp thorns and sparse leaves, making it an intriguing addition to any indoor plant collection.



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Origin: Central and West Africa

Care Level & Placement: Easy care, Indoor plant



Light

Thrives in bright, indirect light. It can tolerate some direct sunlight but avoid intense afternoon sun to prevent leaf burn.



Water

Water thoroughly when the top inch of soil is dry, allowing excess water to drain away. Avoid overwatering as it can lead to root rot.



Soil

Well-draining cactus or succulent soil mix, preferably with added perlite or sand to improve drainage.



Fun fact

The Cactus Cathedral or African Milk Tree is not a true cactus but a succulent. It gets its name from the milky white sap it produces when cut or damaged.



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Pet Friendliness

The sap of the tree is toxic and can cause skin irritation or gastrointestinal discomfort if ingested. Keep it out of reach of pets and children.



Stress Signs

Wrinkled or Shriveled Stems: Wrinkled or shriveled stems indicate dehydration. Increase watering frequency and ensure the soil is adequately moist but not waterlogged.

Yellowing or Dropping Leaves: Yellowing or dropping leaves can be a sign of overwatering or underwatering. Check the soil moisture and adjust watering accordingly.

Soft or Mushy Stems: Soft or mushy stems indicate root rot due to overwatering or poor drainage. Allow the soil to dry out and improve the drainage conditions. Trim off affected parts if necessary.



Botanical Family: Euphorbiaceae

Botanical Name: Euphorbia trigona

Common Name: African Milk Tree, African Candelabra, Cathedral Cactus



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GST NO. 27ENHPD4122G1ZB

