



Nook & Nature

By Neha Kunal Deshmukh

FERTILIZER CYCLE & CARE GUIDE

Simple steps for healthy , happy plants

tortoise plant



Category

🌿 Tropical

Family

🌿 Apocynaceae

Common Name

🌿 Tortoise Plant
🌿 Turtle Back Plant

Vairty of colour



Description

🌿 Tortoise Plant (*Dioscorea elephantipes*) is a rare succulent native to South Africa. It is famous for its large, cracked, woody base (called a caudex) that looks like a tortoise shell. From the top of the caudex, long climbing vines grow with heart-shaped green leaves. It is a slow-growing collector's plant and can live for many years.



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Watering

💧 **Water only when the soil is dry.**

- Summer: Once every 7–10 days
- Winter: Once every 15–20 days
- Avoid overwatering

Temperature

🌡️ **Best Temperature**

- 18°C to 28°C

Can Tolerate

- 10°C to 35°C

Protect from frost and freezing temperatures.

Sunlight

☀️ **Loves bright light.**

Ideal Light

- 3-5 hours of morning sunlight
- Bright indirect light indoors

Fertilizer

🌱 **Feed once every month during spring and summer.**

Recommended Fertilizers

- Succulent Fertilizer
- NPK 19:19:19 Liquid Fertilizer

Soil

🌿 **Requires very well-draining succulent soil.**

Simple Soil Mix

- 40% River Sand or Perlite
- 40% Garden Soil
- 20% Cocopeat or Compost



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Humidity

☁️ Prefers low humidity.

Ideal Humidity

• 30%–50%

Reproduction

🌱 Very easy to propagate through stem cuttings, division, and leaf cuttings.

Stem Cutting Method (Best Method)

1. Cut a healthy stem 8–10 cm long.
2. Let the cut end dry for 1 day.
3. Plant it in well-draining succulent soil.

Benefits

🌱 Easy to propagate through leaves, offsets, and seeds.

Leaf Propagation

1. Gently remove a healthy leaf.
2. Allow it to dry for 1–2 days.

Difficulty Level: Easy 🌱



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