Succulent Seasonal Watering Calendar and Pet Safety Checklist

FitInFlow.space · General plant care guidance. Based on university extension and ASPCA sources. Updated October 2026.

The one rule: water only when the soil is completely dry, then soak until water drains from the hole. Empty the saucer.

1. Season-by-season plan (most succulents; winter growers like aeonium rest in summer instead)

Season	What the plant is doing	Indoors	Outdoors in pots
Spring	Waking up, new growth	Increase gradually; often every 2-3 weeks	Check weekly once nights stay mild
Summer	Peak growth	Soak when fully dry; often every 1-3 weeks	May dry in days; check often
Autumn	Slowing as light fades	Lengthen the gaps between soaks	Bring tender types in before frost
Winter	Resting	Very little; often monthly or less	Hardy types only; avoid standing wet

2. Four dryness tests

Test	How
Finger	Push in to the second knuckle. Any coolness or damp: wait.
Chopstick	Push a wooden chopstick to the bottom for 10 minutes. Dark or soil on it: still wet.
Lift	Learn the weight of a just-watered pot. Dry pots feel much lighter.
Leaf	Plump and firm: fine. Slightly soft, thin, wrinkled (and soil dry): ready for water.

3. Overwatered or underwatered?

Overwatered: act now	Underwatered: soak and wait
[ ] Leaves mushy, translucent, yellow or black [ ] Leaves drop at a touch [ ] Stem base dark or soft [ ] Soil still damp days later, sour smell	[ ] Leaves thin, wrinkled but dry [ ] Lower leaves shrivel slowly [ ] Stem firm [ ] Soil bone dry, pulling from pot edge

Tall, pale, stretched growth usually means too little light, not too little water.

4. Pet safety (ASPCA)

Plant	Cats and dogs	If eaten
Jade plant (Crassula)	**Toxic**	Vomiting, depression, incoordination
Aloe (Aloe vera)	**Toxic**	Vomiting, lethargy, diarrhea
Kalanchoe	**Toxic**	Vomiting, diarrhea; rarely abnormal heart rhythm
Hens and chickens (Echeveria elegans)	**Non-toxic**	Not expected to cause poisoning

Pet ate a plant? Call your vet or ASPCA Animal Poison Control: (888) 426-4435 (fee may apply).

5. 12-week watering log (write the date you soaked each plant)

Plant	W1	W2	W3	W4	W5	W6	W7	W8	W9	W10	W11	W12