

Care Tips for Sansevieria

These tips are considered basic care tips for all of the species and hybrids of the plants commonly called 'Snake Plants' or 'Mother In Law's Tongue'

- **Light:** Although the best exposure can vary between different hybrids, most *Sansevieria* appreciate medium to bright, indirect light. While some are tolerant of direct sunlight, this can also cause leaf burn.
- **Soil:** Pick a well-draining mix that's suitable for succulents. Try a pre-made mix or create your own with a good potting soil mixed with pumice and/or perlite for drainage.
- Water: Sansevieria are not particularly sensitive about water quality, so tap water is typically fine. Always water more each time, but less frequently: allow the water to drain completely, water again, and then allow to dry thoroughly before watering again.
- **Drainage:** All *Sansevieria* require excellent drainage and will not tolerate wet feet.
- **Feeding:** Monthly, with a liquid seaweed-based fertilizer such as Hasta-Gro.
- Other tips for success: Brown spots can occur from scratches or splits that happen during moving them around, so use caution when handling the leaves. Offsets can be propagated from the mother plant quite easily; it will benefit the plants to re-pot and divide at least once per year in most circumstances.



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Our favorite species, hybrids and varieties with individual notes and tips:



Sansevieria zeylanica – The old standby variety and one of the most commonly grown. Extremely easy-care plant that can last for decades in the same container with minimal input.



Sansevieria 'Bantel's Sensation' – A beautifully variegated variety with cream and yellow variegation. Another related hybrid, 'Sayuri,' also has a creamy-white variegation and a pronounced upright habit.



Sansevieria robusta – These are compact hybrids (there are several) and form a shorter-leafed rosette with a stiff, upright habit.



Sansevieria boncellensis – dwarf forms of the *S. cylindrica* types are sometimes called 'Mini Sansevieria.' Larger hybrids including 'Starfish' and 'Javelin' make striking specimen plants with thick, cylindrical, fleshy leaves.



Sansevieria masoniana 'Whale Fin' – This broad-leafed, upright variety has become a favorite of collectors. Also see the varieties 'Victoria' and 'Danish Crown,' which produces the same broad leaf, but in a whorled form.

Sansevieria trifasciata 'Hahnii' – These are often referred to as

and tend to stay very compact. There are a multitude of varieties in

the 'birds nest' Sanseveria and they have a short, whorled form



this species including many patterns and colors of variegation. **Sansevieria spp Specialty Hybrids** – Some of our favorites include 'Gold Flame,' with strikingly beautiful golden-yellow variegation on the interior of the leaves, as well as 'Night Owl' with a compact habit and pale silver coloration. 'Samurai' is a dwarf form of *S. ehrenbergii* that maintains a tightly compact form with

stiff, pointed leaves.



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