

**Botanical name:**  
**Genus: Agave**  
**Species: spp.**

**Common Name(s):** Agave

**Latin Family Name:**  
Asparagaceae

**English Family Name:** Asparagus

The plant

**Origin; country or region:** Native to Mexico and the Southwestern United States

**Growth habit:** A large, stiff specimens that can grow to 10 feet or more in height and width .

There are the small, dish-sized agaves, as well as a few agave species with soft leaves and no spines.

**Flower description:** NA

**Blooming period/availability:** They are perennial succulents, with each rosette flowering once and then dying

**Leaf/Foliage Description:** Fleshy leaves that grow in a distinctive rosette shape

Some are variegated with gold or white markings

**Usage:** Agaves are grown for their dramatic foliage, not their flowers

**STRENGTHS/OPPORTUNITIES:**

Their leaf symmetry is eye-catching

Display curious markings, wispy, curled threads or undulating striped leaves

Among the best choices for a long-lived patio plant

Available in many sizes

One large agave is all you need to make a sculptural focal point in the garden

Pairing them with ornamental grasses can soften their hard edges.

Small agave species are excellent for containers, indoors or outside also good for terrariums

Thrive on neglect, easy to care, long lasting

Agave is a type of succulent, commonly confused with cactus. Remember the rule that all cacti are succulents, but not all succulents are cacti. The main difference between agaves and cacti is the presence of leaves, cacti do not have them, while agaves do

**WEAKNESS:**

Needs plenty of room to grow

Prone to root rot

Prone to insects

**Care & Handling**

**Longevity:** 10 years plus.

**Water requirements:** Few times a week.

**Light:** Bright light

**Soil/Nutrition requirements:** a well-draining potting mix made for succulents

**Special care/remarks:** The sap of agave is toxic both to people and pets

Some popular Agaves

**Agave attenuata:** This is a popular spineless variety, also known as the foxtail or dragon-tree agave

**Agave parviflora.**

**Agave tequilana azul:** Weber's blue agave is used to make vodka

**Agave victoria-reginae**



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