

Botanical name:
Genus: Aloe
Species: vera

Common Name(s): Aloe

Latin Family Name:
Asphodelaceae
English Family Name:
Aloe

Aloe has some 500 species

The plant

Origin; country or region: Native to the Arabian peninsula

Growth habit: Aloe Vera is a succulent that can be grown indoors as a house plant

Flower description: Tall and impressive flower spike

Blooming period/availability: Perennial herb

Leaf/Foliage Description: Spear shaped, spikey leaves with marked variegation

Usage : A favorite spiky green gem of a houseplant has a history spanning myriad cultures

The species is attractive for decorative purposes, and succeeds indoors as a potted plant

STRENGTHS/OPPORTUNITIES:

Easy to grow

Relatively pest free

WEAKNESS:

Sensitive to over watering (leaves turn soft)

Can grow aggressively and invade spaces

Ancient civilizations, among them the Greeks, Chinese, Egyptians, American Indians, and Meso-Americans, used aloe vera to treat everything from baldness and insomnia, to burns, wounds, and fever

Care & Handling

Longevity: 10 years plus

Water requirements: Regular water is required if you plan to use the plant for its gel

Light: Bright light

Soil/Nutrition requirements: Sand in potting mix helps as the plants require good drainage

Special care/remarks: Plant in large pots - for getting big healthy leaves

