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Flaming Katy

Q

feels dry. In winter, reduce watering frequency to allow the plant to enter a semi-dormant state. every two to four weeks during the growing season. After the blooming period, prune back the spent flower stalks to encourage bushier growth and future flowering. Regular removal of dead or yellowing leaves will help maintain the plant's appearance and overall health.

prevent root rot.

1. Poor drainage: Can lead to root rot and fungal diseases.

3. Inappropriate pH: Can affect nutrient uptake.

2. Compaction: Restricts root growth and water penetration.

4. Salt build-up: Caused by over-fertilization or hard water.

6. Root boundness: Can occur if the plant outgrows its pot.

5. Nutrient deficiencies: May occur in poor-quality soils.

Soil problems to watch for include:

To improve soil quality, consider adding organic matter like compost or well-rotted manure. This helps with water retention while still maintaining good drainage. Regularly check the soil's moisture level and adjust watering accordingly to maintain the plant's health. Fertilizer

Kalanchoe blossfeldiana benefits from regular fertilization during its active growing season (spring and summer). Use a balanced, water-soluble fertilizer (e.g., 10-10-10 or 20-20-20) diluted to half strength every 2-4 weeks. Recommended mixture: Dissolve 1/4 teaspoon of fertilizer in 1 gallon of water. Fertilizing schedule: Spring to Fall: Every 2-4 weeks - Winter: Reduce or stop fertilizing Signs of over-fertilization: – White crust on soil surface

Leaf burn or browning edges

- Stunted growth

Organic alternatives:

- Diluted seaweed extract

10-5) for a few applications.

Compost tea

Worm castings

Signs of under-fertilization: – Pale or yellowing leaves - Slow growth - Reduced flowering

Kalanchoe is particularly sensitive to phosphorus deficiency, which can result in purplish leaves. If this occurs, use a fertilizer with a higher middle number (e.g., 5-

The plant prefers room temperature water. Tap water is generally fine, but if your water is very hard, consider using filtered or rainwater to prevent mineral build-

Watering Watering Kalanchoe blossfeldiana prefers to dry out between waterings. Water thoroughly when the top inch of soil feels dry, allowing excess water to drain. During active growth (spring and summer), this may be every 7-10 days, while in winter, reduce watering to every 2-3 weeks.

up in the soil.

- Slow growth

Signs of underwatering:

– Dry, crispy leaf edges

Signs of overwatering:

Yellowing leaves

- Soft, mushy stems

– Drooping or wrinkled leaves

- Fungal growth on soil surface

Adjust watering based on environmental conditions and growth stage. During flowering, the plant may require slightly more water. Always ensure good drainage to prevent water-logging.

Kalanchoe blossfeldiana thrives in bright, indirect light. It can tolerate some direct morning sun but should be protected from harsh afternoon sunlight. Ideal

locations include east or west-facing windows. In low light conditions, the plant may become leggy and produce fewer flowers.

Signs of excessive light: Scorched or brown leaf edges Faded or bleached appearance - Wilting despite adequate watering If natural light is insufficient, supplement with grow lights. For overly bright conditions, use sheer curtains or move the plant further from the window to provide

lemperature

extreme temperatures can damage the plant.

1. Avoid placing near drafty windows or heating/cooling vents.

However, extremely low humidity (below 30%) can cause stress to the plant.

some shade.

Tips:

Signs of insufficient light:

– Elongated, spindly growth

- Pale or yellowing leaves

- Reduced flowering

Ideal daytime temperature: 70°F to 80°F (21°C to 27°C) Ideal nighttime temperature: 60°F to 65°F (15°C to 18°C) The plant can survive short periods down to 40°F (4°C) but may suffer damage. Temperatures above 90°F (32°C) can cause stress and wilting.

Kalanchoe blossfeldiana prefers temperatures between 60°F to 85°F (15°C to 29°C). It can tolerate brief periods outside this range but prolonged exposure to

2. Protect from cold windows in winter. 3. If outdoors, bring inside when temperatures drop below 50°F (10°C). 4. In hot weather, increase watering frequency and provide shade. 5. Maintain a 10°F difference between day and night temperatures to encourage blooming. Humidity Kalanchoe blossfeldiana is well-adapted to average indoor humidity levels and doesn't require high humidity. It can tolerate humidity levels between 40-60%.

- Slower growth

- Soft, mushy growth

To increase humidity:

2. Group plants together

3. Use a room humidifier (if needed)

Symptoms of high humidity stress (rare):

– Fungal growth on leaves or soil surface

1. Use a pebble tray filled with water (most effective)

Symptoms of low humidity stress: – Dry, crispy leaf edges - Flower buds dropping before opening

To decrease humidity: 1. Improve air circulation with a fan 2. Avoid misting the plant 3. Ensure proper spacing between plants

Propagation

Stem Cutting Propagation:

Misting is not recommended for Kalanchoe as it can lead to fungal issues on the leaves.

Kalanchoe blossfeldiana can be propagated through stem cuttings or leaf cuttings. Here's a step-by-step guide:

1. Choose a healthy stem with 2-3 leaf pairs. 2. Cut the stem just below a leaf node using clean, sharp scissors. 3. Remove the lower leaves, leaving 1-2 pairs at the top. 4. Allow the cutting to dry for 24 hours to form a callus. 5. Prepare a well-draining potting mix (2 parts potting soil, 1 part perlite). 6. Dip the cut end in rooting hormone (optional). 7. Plant the cutting in the prepared soil.

9. Keep soil slightly moist but not waterlogged. 10. Roots should develop in 3-4 weeks. Leaf Cutting Propagation: 1. Select a healthy, mature leaf. 2. Gently twist the leaf off the stem, ensuring you get the base of the leaf.

3. Allow the leaf to dry for 24-48 hours.

Signs that indicate repotting is needed:

1. Roots growing out of drainage holes

3. Stunted growth

Repotting process:

4. Pot feels light when lifted

Pruning Kalanchoe blossfeldiana

• Encourage bushier growth

• Remove spent flowers

Control size and shape

• Improve air circulation

Step-by-Step Pruning Guide

1. Sterilize pruning tools with rubbing alcohol.

5. Pinch off growing tips to promote branching.

7. Remove any crossing or rubbing branches.

3. Cut off spent flower stalks at the base.

2. Remove any dead, damaged, or diseased leaves and stems.

4. Trim back leggy stems to encourage bushier growth.

6. Shape the plant by selectively pruning longer stems.

Best Time for Pruning

Frequency

Purpose

2. Plant drying out quickly despite regular watering

8. Water lightly and place in bright, indirect light.

5. Mist the soil lightly to keep it barely moist. 6. Place in bright, indirect light. 7. Small plantlets will form at the base of the leaf in 2-3 weeks. 8. Once plantlets have several leaves, carefully separate and pot individually.

Repotting frequency: Every 2-3 years or when the plant becomes root-bound.

4. Place the leaf on top of well-draining soil, or insert the base slightly into the soil.

Best time to propagate: Spring or early summer Establishment time: 4-8 weeks Stem cuttings generally have a higher success rate and grow faster than leaf cuttings for Kalanchoe blossfeldiana. Potting

drainage holes to prevent water-logging. Pot type: Terracotta or ceramic pots are ideal as they allow soil to dry out between waterings. Drainage: Essential to prevent root rot. Add a layer of gravel or broken pottery shards at the bottom of the pot. Soil composition: Use a well-draining potting mix. Combine 2 parts regular potting soil with 1 part perlite or coarse sand.

Kalanchoe blossfeldiana prefers slightly cramped conditions, so choose a pot only 1-2 inches larger than the current root ball when repotting. Use a pot with

Prune Kalanchoe blossfeldiana after flowering, typically in late winter or early spring. Light pruning can be done year-round to maintain shape.

year by manipulating light exposure. Flowers are small, four-petaled, and grow in clusters atop sturdy stems. Colors range from vibrant reds and pinks to oranges,

Kalanchoe blossfeldiana is often used in feng shui and is believed to bring prosperity and good luck. The plant is also known for its ability to bloom during short

Kalanchoe blossfeldiana is a perennial succulent that typically flowers in winter. It has a relatively slow growth rate and can live for several years with proper care.

The plant goes through cycles of active growth, flowering, and semi-dormancy. After flowering, it enters a rest period before beginning new growth. With proper

Water your Kalanchoe when the top inch of soil feels dry. This is typically every 7-10 days during the growing season and less frequently in winter.

To encourage reblooming, provide 14-16 hours of complete darkness daily for about six weeks. This mimics short winter days and triggers flowering.

Common pests include mealybugs, aphids, and spider mites. Regularly inspect your plant and treat with neem oil or insecticidal soap if pests are detected.

Water

Low

Family Name

Kalanchoe can be grown outdoors in USDA zones 10-12. In colder regions, it's best grown as an indoor plant or moved indoors when temperatures drop below

Kalanchoe needs well-draining soil. A mixture of regular potting soil with added perlite or coarse sand in a 2:1 ratio works well.

Kalanchoe thrives in bright, indirect light. It can tolerate some direct morning sun but should be protected from harsh afternoon sunlight.

Kalanchoe can be propagated through stem or leaf cuttings. Allow cuttings to callus for 24 hours before planting in well-draining soil.

Yes, Kalanchoe is toxic to cats, dogs, and other pets if ingested. Keep the plant out of reach of animals.

yellows, and whites. Optimal blooming occurs when the plant receives 14-16 hours of complete darkness daily for about six weeks.

Major pruning once a year after flowering. Light pruning and deadheading as needed throughout the growing season.

2. Gently remove the plant from its current pot. 3. Inspect roots and trim any that are dead or rotting. 4. Place fresh potting mix in the new pot. 5. Position the plant in the new pot at the same depth as before. 6. Fill around the roots with fresh potting mix. 7. Water thoroughly and place in a bright, indirect light location. 8. Avoid fertilizing for about a month to allow the plant to adjust. Pruning

1. Water the plant a day before repotting to reduce stress.

• Remove diseased or damaged parts Tools Needed • Clean, sharp pruning shears or scissors • Rubbing alcohol for sterilizing tools

Aftercare After pruning, reduce watering slightly and place the plant in bright, indirect light. Resume normal care after new growth appears. Special Considerations Wear gloves when pruning to protect against the plant's mildly toxic sap. Avoid heavy pruning during the plant's blooming period. Blooming Kalanchoe blossfeldiana typically blooms in late fall through winter, with flowers lasting for several weeks. The plant can be induced to bloom at other times of the

Pests and Diseases

Pests

Common issues

Mealybugs

Spider mites

Symptoms

Diseases

Root rot

Leaf spot

Symptoms

Treatment

Common issues

Powdery mildew

White, powdery coating on leaves

Special Features

Brown or black spots on leaves

Aphids

Treatment Isolate plant, remove visible bugs with alcohol-dipped cotton swab, spray with neem oil Spray with strong water jet, apply insecticidal soap or neem oil Increase humidity, spray leaves with water, apply neem oil or miticide

Wilting despite moist soil, yellowing leaves, soft, brown roots

Remove affected parts, repot in fresh, well-draining soil, reduce watering

Improve air circulation, apply fungicide, remove severely affected leaves

Remove affected leaves, avoid overhead watering, apply copper-based fungicide

day lengths, making it a popular choice for winter color in many homes and offices.

light manipulation, it can be induced to bloom at different times of the year.

Fine webbing on leaves, stippling on leaf surfaces

Clusters of small green or black insects on new growth

White, cottony masses on leaves and stems

Kalanchoe blossfeldiana is known for its long-lasting, vibrant flowers that bloom in a variety of colors. The plant has thick, succulent leaves that store water, making it drought-tolerant. It's also valued for its air-purifying qualities, helping to remove indoor air pollutants. The Flaming Katy is often given as a gift plant, especially during the holiday season, due to its cheerful appearance and relatively easy care requirements. Plant Benefits Kalanchoe blossfeldiana has been used in traditional medicine for its anti-inflammatory and pain-relieving properties. Some studies suggest it may have potential anticancer and immunomodulatory effects. However, it's important to note that the plant is toxic if ingested and should not be used for medicinal purposes without

professional guidance.

Life Cycle

Additional Information

Kalanchoe blossfeldiana is toxic to cats, dogs, and humans if ingested. All parts of the plant contain bufadienolides, cardiac glycosides that can cause gastrointestinal upset and, in severe cases, cardiac arrhythmias. Symptoms of toxicity include vomiting, diarrhea, and in rare cases, abnormal heart rhythm. The severity can range from mild to moderate, depending on the amount ingested. If ingestion is suspected, contact a veterinarian or poison control center immediately. To prevent toxicity, keep the plant out of reach of pets and children, and consider alternative non-toxic plants if you have curious pets or young children.

Frequently Asked Questions

How often should I water my Kalanchoe?

How can I make my Kalanchoe bloom again?

What type of soil does Kalanchoe need?

How much light does a Kalanchoe need?

Is Kalanchoe toxic to pets?

Are Flaming Katy Poisonous, Toxic

When should I repot my Kalanchoe? Repot Kalanchoe every 2-3 years or when it becomes root-bound. Choose a pot only 1-2 inches larger than the current one. How do I prune my Kalanchoe? Prune Kalanchoe after flowering to encourage bushier growth. Remove spent flower stalks and trim back leggy stems.

Can Kalanchoe be grown outdoors?

50°F (10°C).

Difficulty

Common Name

Easy

What are common pests that affect Kalanchoe?

Can I grow Flaming Katy in my indoor space

Light

Medium

Botanical Name

Size

Small

Kalanchoe blossfeldiana botanical details

My Flaming Katy Plant Care Recommendations

✔ Perky Plant fertilizer: https://amzn.to/3RdLA00

Seaweed extract: https://amzn.to/3z2CsFh

✓ Rooting hormone: https://amzn.to/3blXi0t

✓ Espoma fertilizer: https://amzn.to/3vPa9bs

✓ Worm compost: https://amzn.to/3HVL01u

✓ Full-spectrum Lighting: https://amzn.to/3qhhaiv

✓ Full-spectrum Light Bulb-Large: https://amzn.to/3yR6VBu

How do I propagate Kalanchoe?

Flaming Katy Kalanchoe blossfeldiana Crassulaceae Kalanchoe Plantae Other Common Names Plant Type Native Area Christmas Kalanchoe, Florist Madagascar Succulent perennial Kalanchoe

✓ Light meter: https://amzn.to/4dpmp3s ✓ Moisture meter: https://amzn.to/3TEUu5N ✓ Hygrometer: https://amzn.to/3Cf6h2F ✔ Pruning shears: https://amzn.to/3X6oOcg ✔ ProMix Potting Soil: https://amzn.to/3iVIrjE ✓ My Organic Green Gourmet Houseplant Fertilizer: healthyhouseplants.storenvy.com ✓ My Perfect Pumice: Healthy Houseplants Store ✓ My Organic Green Gourmet Houseplant Fertilizer: Healthy Houseplants Store

Plant Puns and Jokes

PREVIOUS

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Why did the Kalanchoe go to therapy? It had too many issues with its roots!

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Soil

Kalanchoe blossfeldiana thrives in well-draining, slightly acidic to neutral soil with a pH range of 6.0 to 7.5. A mixture of regular potting soil with added perlite or coarse sand (about 2:1 ratio) provides excellent drainage and aeration for optimal growth. This succulent prefers soil that dries quickly between waterings to

light, water, and nutrients.

its succulent leaves and stems. This adaptation makes it an excellent choice for indoor cultivation, as it can tolerate periods of neglect and dry conditions. The plant's ability to bloom for extended periods, often up to several weeks, has made it a popular gift plant, especially during the holiday season. Flaming Katy Care & Growing Guide Caring for Kalanchoe blossfeldiana, or Flaming Katy, is relatively straightforward, making it an excellent choice for both novice and experienced plant enthusiasts. This succulent thrives in bright, indirect light and prefers well-draining soil. To ensure the best growth and blooming, it's essential to provide the right balance of Watering is a crucial aspect of Kalanchoe care. As a succulent, Flaming Katy is drought-tolerant and prefers to dry out between waterings. Overwatering can lead to root rot, so it's better to err on the side of underwatering. During the growing season (spring and summer), water the plant thoroughly when the top inch of soil Fertilization and pruning are also important for maintaining a healthy Kalanchoe. Feed the plant with a balanced, water-soluble fertilizer diluted to half strength

Flaming Katy Introduction Kalanchoe blossfeldiana, commonly known as Flaming Katy or Christmas Kalanchoe, is a popular succulent houseplant native to Madagascar. This vibrant plant is prized for its long-lasting, colorful blooms and attractive, fleshy leaves. Kalanchoe blossfeldiana typically grows as a compact, bushy plant, reaching heights of 8-12 inches (20-30 cm). The Flaming Katy is characterized by its thick, dark green, scalloped leaves that grow in opposite pairs along the stems. These leaves are waxy and glossy, which helps the plant retain water and gives it a lush appearance. The most striking feature of Kalanchoe blossfeldiana is its clusters of small, four-petaled flowers that bloom in a variety of colors, including red, pink, orange, yellow, and white. In its natural habitat, Kalanchoe blossfeldiana grows as an epiphyte on tree branches or in rock crevices. It has adapted to survive in arid conditions, storing water in