Cactus

Today on Gardening in a Minute: cactus.

Cacti are easy and fun to grow. They’ll tolerate neglect but will thrive when given good care. They’re also well-adapted to the dry conditions found in homes.

Cacti vary tremendously in size, color, shape, and flowering habit. They grow as upright columns, spreading clumps, or spiny spheres. They grow slowly, usually only a few inches a year.

Most cacti lack leaves. The stem is fleshy or succulent and often has thorns, so be careful when handling.

Never let your cacti stand in water. Waterlogged soil will quickly lead to rotting of the roots. And, they generally like to be slightly pot bound.

Cacti prefer a sunny location indoors. If you’re growing yours outdoors, be sure to protect your cacti from frost.

Many cacti also have gorgeous flowers that are a nice surprise.

For more information about cactus and many other gardening topics, contact your county Extension office or visit Gardening in a Minute dot com.

Gardening in a Minute is a production of the University of Florida’s Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology, IFAS Extension, and WUFT-FM.