
STRING OF PEARLS

Senecio rowleyanus or string of pearls is a flowering tropical plant that is native to the southwest Africa. In its natural environment it is a creeping, perennial succulent vine that trails along the ground, producing roots where it spreads. It is also known as string of beans, string of watermelons and several other common names. In modern cultivation it is typically grown and sold as an indoor tropical houseplant. It is a relatively easy plant to grow and enjoy year-round as long as its cultural needs are met. These plants prefer infrequent watering and can tolerate drought for an extended period of time. They can also be propagated with ease from leaf cuttings.

Latin Name: *Senecio Rowleyanus*

Type: Evergreen flowering tropical houseplant

Hardiness: Zone 9-12 not frost hardy

Size: 1-2'

Exposure: Full sun to part shade

Soil: Fast draining cactus mix

Growth Rate: Slow

Growth Habit: Vining

Where should I plant my string of pearls?

String of pearls require an extremely well-draining soil mix such as a cactus and succulent blend. They will not tolerate overwatering well and are susceptible to root rot if over watered. These plants are best grown in direct light with temperatures between 70-80 degrees in summer and 50-60 degrees in winter. String of pearls do not need to be repotted often. However, should repotting become necessary it is beneficial to transplant in spring. These plants are most commonly grown in hanging pots that display their attractive foliage.

How much water will my string of pearls need?

String of pearls are very drought tolerant and require infrequent watering. They store moisture in their ¼" modified leaves or "pearls." Because of this their care is very similar to most succulents available today.

When should I fertilize my string of pearls?

String of pearls have the ability to flower as they are also a member of the daisy family Asteraceae. Their flowers are white, showy daisy-like flowers. These plants benefit from a high-quality liquid fertilizer such as a cactus blend during the growing season.

Are there any pests or diseases I should be aware of?

String of pearls are very disease resistant and are not often affected by common houseplant ailments.