

# Barbed-wire Cactus 'Fairy Castle'

*Cereus tetragonus* 'Fairy Castle'

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This description is for species *Barbed-wire Cactus* (*Cereus tetragonus*):

Arguably, the most common cactus to have on your office desk, never mind at home, *Cereus tetragonus* is a dwarf and rather tender perennial, usually potted and grown under glass. Its distinctive three or five-sided stem is mid-green in colour with fine, brown spines growing from small white, hairy tufts along its edges, thus earning it its common name, the Barbed-wire Cactus. Numerous smaller stems appear over time, while the nocturnal yellow or pink blossoms are rarely seen. Though suited to pots and containers, it grows happily in gravel beds and rockeries. Water regularly when growing, but keep dry in winter and apply low-nitrogen fertilizer for extra nourishment.



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Plant	Environment	Usage
<b>Known dangers?</b> no	<b>Acidity</b> Acidic Neutral Alkaline	<b>Standard category</b> Cacti & succulents Cacti
<b>Height [m]</b> 0.6 - 0.9	<b>Hardiness zone</b> Z10-11	<b>Grown for</b> Attractive flowers and foliage
<b>Spread [m]</b> 0.3 - 0.4	<b>Heat zone</b> unknown	<b>Creative category</b> Kid Approved For Beginners Colours
<b>Dominant flower colour</b> White	<b>Winter temperatures [°C]</b> -1 - 4	<b>Garden type</b> Indoor or winter garden Containers

Plant	Environment	Usage
<b>Flower Fragrance</b> No, neutral please	<b>Heat days</b> 0	<b>Gardening expertise</b> beginner
<b>Flowering seasons</b> Early summer Mid summer Late summer Early autumn	<b>Moisture</b> well-drained	<b>Time to reach full size</b> up to 20 years
<b>Foliage in spring</b> Green	<b>Soil type</b> sandy loams	
<b>Foliage in summer</b> Green	<b>Sun requirements</b> Full sun	
<b>Foliage in Autumn</b> Green	<b>Exposure</b> Sheltered	
<b>Foliage in winter</b> Green		
<b>Propagation methods</b> seed root cuttings		
<b>Growth habit</b> Erect		