

Aloe Vera Report - Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam 2.0

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Class: 9F

Name of the Plant:

Aloe Vera (*Botanical Name: Aloe barbadensis miller*)

Care Instructions:

- Needs bright, indirect sunlight. Can tolerate some direct sun, but is not recommended
- Water well but infrequently. Let the soil dry out completely between waterings (usually once every 2 weeks).
- Well-draining, sandy or cactus potting mix of soil is preferable.
- Ensure the pot has drainage holes to avoid root rot.
- Prefers warm temperatures and low humidity.

Ecological Benefits:

- Absorbs toxins like formaldehyde and benzene from indoor air.
- Prevents erosion due to its thick, fibrous roots.
- Needs very little water, making it ideal for arid climates.
- Naturally regenerates and can be harvested repeatedly without harming the plant.

Interesting Facts:

- The gel is widely used for burns, cuts, skin moisturization, and even digestion.
- Common in lotions, shampoos, and face creams.
- Known as the "plant of immortality" by ancient Egyptians.
- Aloe Vera rarely suffers from pest attacks due to its thick leaves and antibacterial properties.

Aloe Vera Care in Oman:

1. Light

- Aloe vera needs **bright sunlight**, but **too much direct desert sun** (especially in peak afternoon) can scorch the leaves.
- **Ideal spot:** Place it where it gets **morning sun** and **afternoon shade**—like a **south- or east-facing balcony** or a **bright window indoors**.

2. Pot & Soil

- Use a **pot with drainage holes**.
- Soil must be **well-draining**: cactus/succulent mix or a mix of **sand + potting soil** works great.
- Avoid regular garden soil—it holds too much water.

3. Watering

- Water **deeply but rarely**—about **once every 2–3 weeks** in summer, and even less in winter.
- Make sure soil **dries out completely** between watering.
- Avoid water collecting in the pot—**overwatering is the #1 killer** of aloe plants.

4. Temperature

- Aloe vera thrives in **20°C to 35°C**.
- It can tolerate heat, but bring it **indoors or shaded** during **extreme temperatures over 40°C**.
- Protect from cold drafts if temps drop below **10°C** in winter.

5. Air & Ventilation

- Ensure good airflow, especially indoors—**avoid stuffy, closed spaces**.
- If indoors, place near a **window with natural light**.

6. Pests & Problems

- Watch for **soft, mushy leaves** (overwatering) or **brown, crispy tips** (too much sun or not enough water).
- Rarely, you might see mealybugs—wipe them off with a cloth dipped in mild soap water.

7. Repotting & Growth

- Repot every **2–3 years** or if the roots outgrow the pot.
- You can **propagate** new aloe plants from the “pups” (small plants growing at the base).

