

PLANTS TO READ ABOUT

Frithia pulchra: small leaf windows with their own annual rhythm

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AI-created scene based on the original shop photo. Size reference: 5.5 cm pot · approx. 6–8 cm overall height. Decoration is not included; this is not a product photograph to scale.

Grow with knowledge.

A collection for observation and reference. Detailed explanations to help you make care decisions suited to your plant and its position.

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PLANT PORTRAIT

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Botanical identification	Frithia pulchra
Family	Aizoaceae
Origin	Magaliesberg in South Africa’s summer-rainfall region
Delivery size	5.5 cm pot · approx. 6–8 cm overall height
Growth and distinctive feature	Very low group of short cylindrical storage leaves with flat translucent tips

Care at a glance

Observe, check and adapt care to the position and season. This table provides guidance for everyday practice.

Topic	What to do	Why it helps
Light	Very bright; introduce stronger sun gradually.	The miniature must not suddenly overheat behind hot glass.
Summer water	During active growth, water sufficiently again after drying.	Frithia comes from a summer-rainfall region and should not be constantly deprived then.
Drainage	Let water drain promptly and empty the outer pot.	An adequate supply does not mean standing wetness.
Compost	Loose, strongly mineral with a small organic proportion.	Fine roots need air and manageable moisture.
Winter rest	During rest, keep dry, bright and frost-free.	The annual rhythm differs from summer care.
Feed	During growth, feed sparingly and weakly according to the product.	A small root ball is sensitive to excessive supply.
Leaf windows	Do not polish, squeeze or cut the tips.	The translucent end surfaces are part of the natural function.
Checks	Watch leaf bases, roots and possible mealybugs.	Distinguish shrinkage during rest from soft damaged tissue.

Knowledge that grows

Through a leaf window into the plant

Frithia pulchra has short thick leaves with flattened translucent tips. These windows let light enter deeper leaf tissue. The low group therefore resembles a collection of small green columns. It belongs to the ice-plant family. This window name has no botanical connection to the large *Monstera*, also called window-leaf in German. The special structure is easily recognised from slightly above. Do not polish the surface or remove an imagined coating; intact leaf tips are an essential part of the plant.

A miniature with clear origins

The offer is an approximately two-year-old plant in a 5.5 cm pot, with around 6 to 8 cm overall height. The visible green part remains correspondingly low. Its natural home is South Africa's Magaliesberg, a summer-rainfall region. The general image of a southwestern African stony desert that is dry all year therefore leads care in the wrong direction. The original photograph shows possible pink flowers with a pale centre. Flowering delivery cannot be inferred from it. In everyday cultivation, healthy firm leaves and a dependable annual rhythm matter more than forced flowering.

Plenty of light without abrupt overheating

Choose a very bright position and gradually accustom the plant to direct sun. A small pot behind a hot pane can warm up strongly. Good air movement helps without exposing the plant to a cold draught. During summer stays outdoors, drainage must work reliably and shelter must be possible during prolonged poor weather. Closed damp glass is unsuitable. Natural occurrence in rocky places also does not establish reliable frost tolerance for a small cultivated pot. For cultivation here, winter remains frost-free.

In summer, do not treat it like resting living stones

Frithia grows in summer and then needs an adequate water supply. Water the freely draining root ball again after it dries rather than drying the plant out completely for a long time. Excess must be able to drain immediately. A loose strongly mineral compost with a small organic proportion makes this easier. Permanent water in the outer pot remains unsuitable. The combination of warm growth, small roots and a small pot calls for regular checking. Rigid Lithops rules must not be adopted without assessment: similar storage leaves do not imply an identical growth and rest calendar.

Support a dry winter rest deliberately

During resting winter cultivation, keep dry and do not continue feeding. The plant may shrink a little. This is initially an adaptation, not a reason to flood it immediately. Continue checking overall condition, light and temperature, however. A warm position where growth continues does not simply fit an unchanged cold dry-rest schedule. In spring, resume supplies gently with increasing brightness and visible growth. During growth, sparing weak-dose feeding according to product instructions is sufficient. Avoid high salt concentrations in a tiny pot.

Handle roots, flowers and leaf groups gently

When repotting, do not pull the low leaf group apart. Use a suitable container with drainage, preserve healthy roots and do not plant arbitrarily deeper. Small quantities of loose mineral grit on the surface keep the plant's base airier than a thick damp organic coating. Check for mealybugs, soft leaf bases and unusually rapid collapse. Seed and vegetative propagation are possible but require patience and clean cultivation. For beginners, learning about the existing group over a complete annual cycle is worthwhile. Sufficiently strong plants can then also show their bright flowers.

Pictures and details

Images and descriptions from this portrait. Decorative items are not included in the offer.



Original shop photograph: Frithia. 5.5 cm pot · approx. 6–8 cm overall height. Natural variations are possible.



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Good to know

Is Frithia the same window-leaf plant as Monstera?

No. Here the German name refers to the translucent leaf tips of a small succulent.

Can I leave it dry for months in summer?

During active summer growth, Frithia needs sufficient supplies in well-drained compost. Permanent drying is not suitable standard care.

Can I adopt my Lithops care?

Not unchanged. Frithia has its own annual rhythm with summer growth and dry winter rest.

Why do the leaves shrink in winter?

During rest, the plant may use water reserves and shrink. Assess condition, light and temperature too; soft rotten leaf bases need separate consideration.

The matching offer

[Plant in the shop](#)

The linked shop is in German. Product details, availability and delivery information are provided in that shop.

[Read the complete portrait in English](#)



English portrait



Shop offer (in German)