

PLANTS TO READ ABOUT

Tiger aloe: pale bands on strong green leaves

Triangular leaves stand in a distinctive arrangement and carry pale crosswise markings. *Gonialoe variegata* is a small succulent whose biggest care requirement is often the right balance in watering.



AI-created scene based on the original shop photograph. Size reference: 5.5 cm pot · approximately 6–8 cm. 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.

Issue September 2026

PLANT PORTRAIT

Gonialoe variegata

Tiger aloe: pale bands on strong green leaves

Triangular leaves stand in a distinctive arrangement and carry pale crosswise markings. *Gonialoe variegata* is a small succulent whose biggest care requirement is often the right balance in watering.



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

Botanical classification	<i>Gonialoe variegata</i>
Family	Asphodelaceae
Origin	Southern Africa
Delivery size	5.5 cm pot · approximately 6–8 cm
Habit and distinctive feature	Compact rosette with spotted leaves arranged in three rows

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	Bright; acclimatise gradually to direct sun.	Abrupt strong sun can cause stress.
Water	Let the compost dry well between watering.	Fleshy leaves store moisture.
Drainage	Remove remaining water completely.	Waterlogging is a common cause of root damage.
Rosette	Do not leave water permanently in the leaf centre.	Wet bases are prone to rot.
Compost	Choose mineral-rich, free-draining succulent compost.	Roots need oxygen.
Fertiliser	Feed sparingly during growth, following the label.	A small specimen needs only moderate feeding.
Winter	Keep bright and frost-free, watering much more sparingly.	Low light and cool conditions reduce consumption.
Use	Do not eat it or use it for skin applications.	Tiger aloe is not Aloe vera.

Knowledge that grows

A pattern of pale bands

Tiger aloe carries thick, triangular leaves with irregular pale crosswise spots. Young plants in particular show a clear three-row arrangement. The current name *Gonialoe variegata* is encountered alongside the older *Aloe variegata*. It is neither a striped *Haworthia* nor *Aloe vera*. Adult plants can produce a slender flower spike, but the small listing initially centres on leaf architecture. Shape and spotting differ from leaf to leaf.

A miniature with clear proportions

The offered plant comes in a 5.5 cm pot and is approximately 6–8 cm in size. It suits a very bright small spot, not the effect of a large floor-standing plant. The scene shows this general scale with an appropriate everyday reference. The species remains comparatively manageable later but grows beyond its delivery size. The decorative pot and accessories are examples. The living plant may differ from the photograph in leaf number and orientation.

Brightness without abrupt changes

Choose a bright position and acclimatise slowly to direct sun. Strong midday sunshine may cause stress after transport or winter conditions. Reddish leaves are therefore not automatically a desirable colour goal. Check heat and root-ball moisture too. A dark spot encourages weak, stretched growth. A bright, frost-free position remains important in winter. The species' drought adaptation does not make frost safe in a small pot.

Wet roots are the greater risk

Let the compost dry well between watering. Water the compost thoroughly as needed, then let water drain completely. Do not constantly water into the rosette centre. Soft leaves in a wet root ball may indicate root damage and should not be treated with even more water. Water particularly sparingly during cooler, low-light periods. Still check the miniature regularly, as its small root ball has limited reserves.

Mineral structure and suitable pot size

A free-draining succulent mix with stable mineral ingredients is suitable. A pot without drainage holes remains inappropriate, even if gravel is added at the bottom. Keep the base at the same height when repotting and provide only a little more room. Offsets can later be separated carefully once sufficiently developed. Feed sparingly during visible growth, following the label. Heavy feeding does not make a young rosette grow faster and healthier.

Preserve the pattern and take changes seriously

Remove dust gently and inspect between leaves for mealybugs. Loosen completely dead outer leaves carefully. Damp, dark areas at the base or a soft centre require close inspection. Tiger aloe is an ornamental plant and is not used for eating or homemade skin remedies. A calm, bright position and deliberate pauses between watering maintain its clear form.

Pictures and details

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



Original shop photograph: tiger aloe. 5.5 cm pot · approximately 6–8 cm. Natural variation is possible.

Good to know

Why is it also called *Aloe variegata*?

That is the older botanical name. Today the species is listed as *Gonialoe variegata*.

Are red leaves normal?

Colouring may be linked to light and stress. Check strong sun, heat and root-ball moisture rather than forcing it deliberately.

How often does the miniature need water?

After it has dried well, depending on light and temperature. Check the small pot regularly but do not water it daily.

Can I use the leaves like *Aloe vera*?

No. This species is grown as an ornamental plant; those uses are not recommended.

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)