

St. Anthony's Rick-Rack (Ric-Rac), Zig-Zag or Fish bone cactus
(*Selenicereus anthonyanus*)

Named Rick-Rack, Zig-Zag or Fish Bone Cactus due to the zig-zag nature of the stem, these plants are EXCELLENT if you don't have a green thumb.

They grow easily in moderately dry conditions and make a great house plant, doing especially well in hanging baskets. They are hardy to zone 9 and warmer when grown under an oak canopy; so grow as a houseplant in colder zones (or any zone!). These plants can stand quite dry conditions, but will thrive with a moderate amount of water in well draining soil - don't overwater – never allow water to stand on these plants! These plants prefer bright shade, not direct sun.

These plants are SUPER EASY to root; simply place each cutting, cut end down, into some very well draining (cactus suitable) soil. I usually bury mine about 3" deep in the soil; leaving the remainder of the stem above ground level. Be sure to pack the soil tightly around the cutting to remove any air pockets and make sure the whole bottom of the cutting has good contact with the soil. You can lay these down for rooting, but I've found they seem to root better if you put them in vertically (straight up and down), this way, no water can lay on top of the cutting, it will drain straight down and not rot them.

Water sparingly but regularly (I water every 2-3 days when getting them started; but don't allow water to stand or allow the soil to become soggy), water as you would a cactus and within a few weeks you'll have rooted, growing plants!

This is the most inexpensive way to get a start of these wonderful plants, and the way people have passed this plant on to friends and neighbors for years!

Once started, reduce watering to about once a week or whenever the soil is dry. Bring your plants inside (or protect them outside) when temperatures start to fall into the 30's or a frost is expected.