

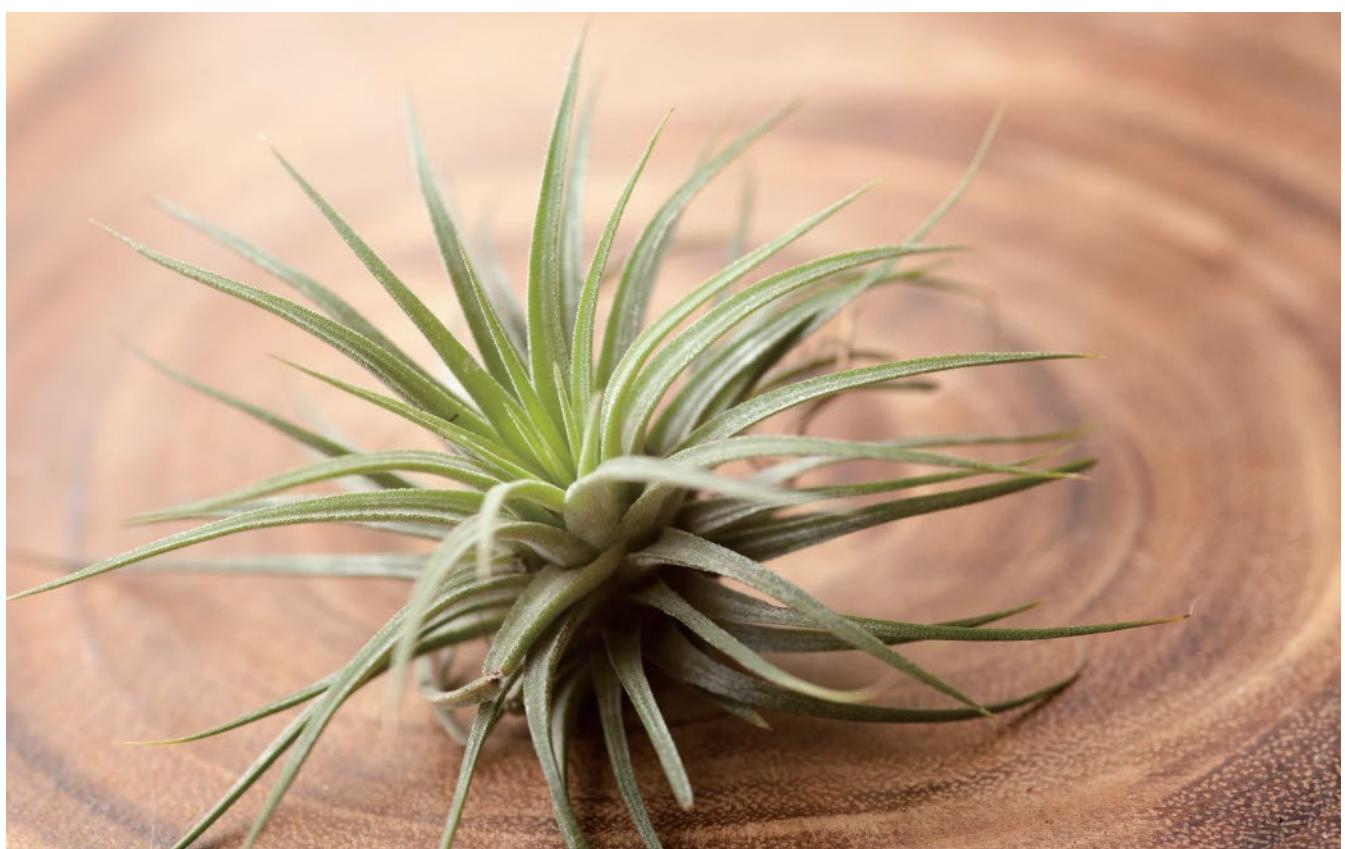
HOW TO CARE FOR INDOOR AIR PLANTS

Air plants also known as Tillandsia are epiphytes that derive nutrients from the air making them an easy-to-care houseplants. They require minimum maintenance approximately 4-6 hours indirect sunlight daily and once a week waterings. They are not dependent on soil to thrive that makes flexible to be placed in all kinds of pots, planters and containers maximizing creative display possibilities for as long as you place them in a stable, moisture-free surface to thrive on.

Planting Procedure:

- A. Bright, indirect sunlight around 4-6 hours every day. Too much sunlight may cause burnt foliage, so place them in a spot that gets bright, filtered sunlight. You may consider placing them 3-5 feet of a south, east or west facing window.
- B. Place airplants on a dry, stable surface. Since they don't require soil to grow, you may mount them anywhere on a dry, stable surface like terrariums or globes on bookshelves or near windowsills.
- C. Maintain temperature level between 10-32 °C for optimum growth. During the peak of summer and winter seasons, it is recommended to place a thermostat for regular monitoring of room temperature. Airplants are considered tropical plants that do not thrive well if temperature drops below 7 °C.
- D. Give your air plants a 30-minute soak in a basin or tub of water once a week. Place the whole plant under water and leave them for 30 minutes. After that, shake them gently to remove excess moisture and spread them upside-down on a clean towel to air-dry.
- E. Airplants being tropical plants require high humidity levels and warm temperature. Mist the plants between waterings to add moisture and humidity. If the leaves look dehydrated, increase frequency of misting and give it a good soak. However, if you live in a humid climate, you can choose to mist the plants every other day.

F. Feed air plants with Bromeliad fertilizer once a month to encourage growth. You can purchase them at local nurseries otherwise you can use any water-soluble houseplant fertilizer diluted to 1/4 strength. Pour the fertilizer into the water basin for weekly 30-minute soak like you normally would.



Pruning and Dividing Air plants:

- A. Remove brown leaves at the base of the plant when they appear by prying them away using your fingers.
- B. Trim away dry, brown leaf tips with a sharp pair of scissors.
- C. To control growth, divide air plants. After 2-3 years, these air plants will grow rapidly so baby shoots called pups will start to appear at the base of the plant. As soon as they are at least 1/3 of mother's size, you may remove them gently.
- D. Isolate the pups by spreading the leaves gently with your fingers. When you pry open at the middle, you can see the pups growing there. It is recommended to divide plants immediately after soaking them in water.
- E. Pull the baby shoots or pups carefully using your fingers. The pups will separate easily and will eventually become mother plants themselves. They multiply quite fast, so you may choose to give them as presents to family and friends.

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