

## DOS AND DON'TS

### DO

- Mist frequently. Morning is the best time, since it gives them a chance to dry off completely.
- Give lots of light.
- Check their leaves to make sure they're hydrated.

### DON'T

- Let them sit wet for long periods of time, especially in cold weather.
- Let water sit in the cusps of the leaves. In our cool climate, this is a recipe for rot.
- Let them dry out excessively. If they get a little too dry, soak them; but better to do it through a series of short soakings, rather than letting them sit under water for hours. Shake them off well afterwards.

## What about feeding?

In nature, air plants get their nutrients from the dust that settles on their leaves while they're moist. You don't need to fertilize, but an orchid fertilizer mixed at 1/10 strength, used once or twice a month during the summer, can help them grow more quickly.

## My air plant flowered, but now it's dying!

Air plants flower once; then, the entire stem dies off. If it's happy, it will either branch, or grow "pups" at the base of the plant.

These pups eventually form a clump, which will all come into bloom at once. A large blooming clump is an impressive sight! You can also separate the pups when they're large enough, and grow them separately.



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# Air Plants (Tillandsias)



Tillandsias are not your traditional houseplant. While the rest of your collection requires pottery and soil, your air plants (with the right amount of light and water) can live almost anywhere.

An epiphyte and a member of the bromeliad family, tillandsias aren't as challenging as you may think - they just require a little special attention!

*The Indoor Sun Shoppe*

