



## Care of Tillandsia

*(aka Tillys, Air Plant or Airplant)*

Tillandsias grow differently than other houseplants. Most Tillandsia species use their root systems to attach themselves to bark, rocks or other mounting medium and absorb moisture and nutrients through their leaves. These hardy plants are adaptable and tolerant to a wide range of conditions. A learning curve may be required to get the right watering system down that works in your situation, then they're very easy to care for.

The three most important requirements are bright light, although not direct sun, good air circulation and water.

**Glass globes with tillandsia** have become a popular decorative accessory in homes and offices. Follow these simple instruction to enjoy your glass surrounded plant.

- Mist your plant 2-3 times a week—ONE Spray for tiny globes, 2-3 sprays for globe 3-5 inches, more if the plant is in a large open globe.

The key is to judge the drying time—the smaller the globe, the less circulation, the longer the plant will hold the moisture. The plants can look dry but actually remain moist in the crucial center area, where new cells are produced. If this area remains too moist for too long the plant may rot. Likewise, if it dries out too much, the edges of the leaves start curling up and “pinching.”

- If your plant loses that happy healthy look, take it out and soak it face down in a sink or bowl of water for up to 30 minutes. Shake off excess water and allow to dry 2-3 hours before replacing in container.
- Do not place your globes directly in front of a window where they get direct sun. Remember the glass will intensify the sunlight and the heat.

*One last note. If the plant is soaked, you can put water in a container with a lid and reuse the water over and over for your soakings. A drop of **Nature's Source Plant Food** in the water will increase the growth and vigor of the plant and blooms. Use filtered water, tap water, rain water or bottled water (not distilled or softened). A soaking in this manner should rehydrate the plant for up to two weeks in average conditions.*