



For the joy of gardening!

Estabrook's

TECTORUM AIR PLANT CARE

LIGHT

Tillandsia tectorum needs very bright, well-ventilated conditions, with protection from sudden exposure to harsh sun through glass. Acclimate it gradually to a brighter position. Its white, fuzzy surface is made of specialized leaf scales and should not be rubbed off or treated as dust.

WATER

Use light to moderate misting that wets the leaves and then dries promptly. Adjust frequency to humidity, warmth, airflow, and the plant's condition; a dry heated room needs more attention than a humid display. Avoid a routine long soak or leaving water trapped around the base.

SOIL & PLANTING

Do not pot this air plant in soil. Use an open support that allows air to reach the base and leaves. Keep it above wet moss or pebbles rather than pressing it into them. A sealed glass container makes it difficult to dry thoroughly after watering.

FEEDING

Feed sparingly with a fertilizer labeled for air plants or bromeliads, following a gentle labeled dilution. More fertilizer does not replace good light and appropriate watering. Avoid applying concentrated solutions or leaving fertilizer residue on the delicate fuzzy leaves. Plain water and drying remain the main priorities.

SEASONAL CARE

Keep frost-free in a bright room, away from cold windows and hot heater airflow. Allow the whole plant to dry before returning it to a close-fitting holder. A summer outdoor stay needs gradual adjustment and shelter from heavy, prolonged rain. Bring it inside before cold weather.

HELPFUL TIPS

Tectorum is separated from the general soaking guide because its dense scales and need for rapid drying call for more cautious watering. Handle by the base where possible. A soft, dark base suggests rot; crisp tips can indicate moisture stress or unsuitable exposure. Check conditions before increasing water.