



For the joy of gardening!

Estabrook's

TILLANDSIA CARE GUIDE

LIGHT

Air plants enjoy bright, filtered light. Place them near a bright window with protection from strong afternoon sun. Silvery, firm-leaved types generally tolerate more light than softer, green-leaved types. Keep glass displays out of direct sunlight, where heat can build up quickly.

WATERING

Remove your plant from its display and rinse thoroughly with lukewarm water once or twice a week. Many common types also benefit from a 20-30 minute soak. Shake out excess water and drain upside down, allowing several hours to dry before returning it to its holder. Adjust watering to the species and your home's humidity.

SOIL

Unpotted Tillandsia do not need soil; their leaves absorb water and nutrients. Use an open holder with plenty of airflow, and never leave the base sitting in water or damp moss. Potted pink-quill plants (*Tillandsia cyanea*) need different care and are not covered by these instructions.

TEMPERATURE

Keep air plants in a comfortable, warm room, away from cold glass, drafty doors and heating vents. Protect them from frost. If displayed outdoors in summer, choose bright shade and bring them inside before cool autumn nights.

FERTILIZING

Feed lightly during active growth with a fertilizer labeled for air plants or bromeliads. Follow its dilution and application directions. Extra fertilizer will not make up for poor light or irregular watering, and plants should always drain and dry after feeding.

PESTS

Check leaf bases for mealybugs or other insects, especially when bringing a new plant home. Isolate affected plants and ask us about a suitable treatment. Handle the leaves gently to protect their absorbent scales. A soft, dark base can signal rot from trapped moisture or poor airflow.