

Palmer's

DIY GARDENING PROJECTS ★ FOR KIDS ★



Kokedama

You will need

- Sphagnum moss
- String
- A small houseplant
- Clay
- Large mixing bowl
- Mix pumice and houseplant mix



The Japanese “kokedama” is a creative botanical technique that grows plants in a ball of soil covered in moss. Popular houseplants like ferns, philodendrons and herbs can all be turned into a suspended green oasis.



Instructions

Step 1 - mix the soil ingredients

Mix bonsai soil and peat moss in equal parts in a bowl. Then add clay and water until you have a grapefruit-sized ball that sticks together.

Step 2 - get the plant ready

Remove the plant from its pot and gently loosen the roots while removing excess soil.

Suggested plants: spider plants, asparagus ferns, coleus, philodendrons or other hardy houseplants.

Step 3 - put the plant in the ball

Make an opening in the ball that you have formed and carefully work the plant's roots into the centre. Then re-form the ball by pressing it firmly together.

Step 4 - wrap the soil ball in moss

Lay sheet moss out in a single layer, with the green side facing down. Place the clay ball and plant in the centre and wrap the moss around it.

Step 5 - trim and add moss as needed

Bind the moss to the soil by wrapping string or twine until the kokedama is secure. Tie it off, leaving extra length to hand the kokedama. Lastly, soak the kokedama in water, until it is soaked through. Then hang the kokedama.

Care Tips

If your kokedama plant is outgrowing its soil ball, simply open it back up, mix more soil and make the ball bigger. If you don't want to hang the kokedama, you can display it on a dish or saucer to make watering easier.

Check out palmer's.co.nz for more great ideas!

