



# Naples Botanical Garden

## Kokedama “Japanese Moss Ball” Instructions

### Materials Needed:

- Soil
- Perlite
- Peat Moss
- Sheet Moss (regular moss is fine, but sheets stay together and make it so easy when wrapping)
- Nylon String (or a type that won't deteriorate over time)
- Bucket
- Scissors
- Spray Bottle
- Plant(s) (shade loving, drought hardy, slow growing plants are best)

1. In a bucket, mix together soil, perlite, and peat moss. 50% soil, 25% perlite, 25% peat moss. Mix together well and water enough so that it is mushy, but not soup.
2. Take a large handful of your soil mixture (depending on your plant's size) and shape it into a ball. You may need to add/squeeze out water, or add soil/peat moss to your mix to make it the right consistency for shaping into a ball.
3. Remove your plant from its container and, being as gentle as possible; remove as much dirt as you can from the roots.
4. Open up your soil ball (in half if needed) and place roots inside. Take some more soil mix if needed to close and shape your ball again until it is nice and round.
5. Tear your sheet moss into a circle, sized so that it will fit your plant/ball, and then spray it with water until moist.
6. Wrap your moss so that it covers the entire ball, if moist it will stick well enough for the next step.
7. Taking your string, wrap your ball entirely so that the moss will stay in place.
8. Tie ends securely.
9. Loop a piece of string about 2 feet long (depending on how low or high you want your Kokedama to hang) through one of the crosshairs of string around the top of the ball and tie the ends. If you want to keep it in a dish, then skip this step.
10. Your Kokedama is finished! Hang your kokedama indoors or out, being sure to water it frequently if misting, or less so if soaking [See below].
  - Watering your Kokedama: you can water your kokedama by misting with spray bottle or placing it in a bowl of water and letting it soak in water for 5-10 min. Squeeze out some of the excess water so it isn't dripping everywhere and you won't have to water it as often!

## PROJECT IMAGES

