



Air plants aren't as carefree as their reputation suggests, but they're easy once you know what they want: **regular water, fast drying, bright filtered light and moving air**. Every space is different, so use this as a starting point and adjust to yours.



WATER

Soak weekly

Then dry fully within 4 hours



LIGHT

Bright, filtered

20,000–30,000 lux; no midday sun



AIR FLOW

Keep air moving

Never sealed in; away from vents



TEMPERATURE

High 70s °F ideal

Survives 32°F to 100°F+; cool nights bring color

How to water

1

Soak

Submerge in room-temperature water. Green types: **10–20 min**. Silver, fuzzy types: a **quick dunk**.

2

Shake & flip

Shake gently and set it **upside down**, so no water sits in the base where rot starts.

3

Dry fast

Bright, airy spot; **fully dry within ~4 hours**. Water in the morning so it's dry by night.

4

Watch & adjust

Start **once a week**. Curling leaves: water more. Dark base: water less.

Water

Water is usually the culprit when a plant dies. Keep a **consistent** schedule; air plants thrive once they acclimate. When in doubt, underwater: rot is fast, but thirst shows signs you can fix.

Know your environment

A/C and heated air are dry; add a watering if leaves curl. Above 90°F outdoors, every other day isn't unusual.

Choose your water

- **Best:** mineral water at pH 5.5–6; it keeps calcium crust off.
- **Fine:** tap water. **Avoid:** softened water (it adds salt).
- **RO or distilled:** add nutrients back; pure water leaches them from the plant.

Green-to-white spectrum

Green varieties

Rainforest origin · less light, more water

White varieties

Dry/mountain origin · more light, less water

Light & placement

Bright, filtered light (20,000–30,000 lux), such as near an east or west window. Grow lights: **12 hrs/day within 2 ft**.

No direct sun, especially 10am–2pm. Our greenhouse-grown plants burn easily.

- **Air:** kitchens work well; avoid A/C and heat vents.
- **Display:** no soil or wet moss. Open globes only; never sealed.
- **No copper:** copper wire and containers are toxic.

Feeding, blooms & pups

- **Feed monthly** (optional): bromeliad or air plant fertilizer at **¼ strength** in the soak. Avoid copper, boron and zinc.
- Each plant **blooms once**, then grows pups. Separate at **⅓ the mother's size**, or let them clump.

Quick reference

YOU SEE	LIKELY CAUSE	TRY THIS
Leaves curling, rolled or soft	Thirsty	Add a watering or soak longer
Dark, mushy base	Rot from too much water	Shake out and dry upside down; water less often; more air flow
Brown, crispy tips	Dry air or underwatering	Water more often; move away from vents
Bleached or scorched patches	Direct sun	Move to bright, filtered light
White crusty buildup	Hard-water minerals	Switch to mineral water, pH 5.5–6
Healthy but dull	Low light or no feeding	Brighter filtered light, cooler nights, monthly feeding