

CREATING A KOKEDAMA MOSS BALL ALTERNATIVE METHOD

- Use a spherical floral foam ball (wet type). Select a ball of the desired size and soak it in water before use. A planting hole is cut into the foam to fit the plant's root ball. Wash the roots to remove all soil before planting in floral foam sphere.
- Select a plant that can thrive in the amount of light available at the display site and which can take a bit more moisture. Cacti or other moisture-sensitive plants should be avoided. Examples: Money plant; Heart Leaf Philodendron; Dracaenas; Lucky Bamboo.
- Live moss is available in large sheets which can be cut up for Kokedama projects.



Materials:

To make a Kokedama moss ball, you will need a pair of scissors or a small knife, a pair of small wire cutters, a floral foam sphere, some water, live moss, floral wire, a small plant and a bowl.



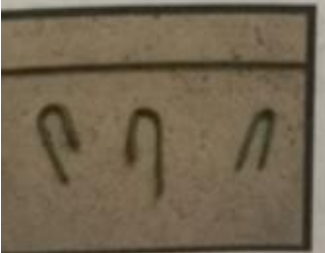
Step 1:

Soak the floral foam sphere in water, making sure it is well saturated.



Step 2:

Cut out a hole using a pair of scissors or small knife. The size of the hole depends on the size of the plant's root ball.



Step 3:

Using wire cutters, cut floral wires into smaller pieces and bend them into U-shaped hooks.



Step 4:

Use the U-shaped hooks to secure the moss onto the floral foam sphere.



Step 5:

If the ball is going to be displayed on a platform, you can omit covering the base of the ball.



Step 6:

- Wash all soil from the plant roots and insert the desired plant into the hole in the floral foam sphere.
- To secure the plant in place, use some leftover bits and pieces of floral foam before inserting some moss around the planting hole to hide the foam and plant roots.



Kokedama Examples

- Keep the moss ball always moist since moss does not like to dry out. Although it is a low light plant, moss grows best in a semi-shaded area, preferably exposed to 4 to 6 hours of filtered sunlight daily.

Getting to Know Kokedama

- Kokedama originated from Japan where bonsai plants were grown in moss-covered spherical balls made of soil. Loosely translated, 'koke' means moss and 'dama' means ball. These spherical novelties make wonderful personalized gifts as well as great accents and conversational pieces for homes.

