

Get ready to get your hands dirty as our brilliant instructor, Kelly, teaches you how to create your own kokedama like a moss! A striking decorative piece for your home, balcony or outdoor area, this is a class you've all been rooting for.

Video Lesson Outline

Video Lesson Title	Video Format	Video Length	Talking Points & Key Concepts
<i>Give each video lesson a clear, concise title.</i>	<i>Classes generally use a combination of video formats: Talking Head, Physical Demo, Screencast and Slides.</i>	<i>Video lessons are 1-5 minutes, on average.</i>	<i>Skillshare classes are bite-sized. Make your lessons short and digestible by sticking to one major concept per lesson.</i>
Introduction	Talking head	30 sec	Hi everyone my name is Kelly and today I am going to teach how to create your very own beautiful Kokedama. I've spent that last 14 years living apartments and am passionate about bringing the outdoors inside and gardening in small spaces. Kokedamas are the perfect way to bring a piece of nature into your home. You might be wondering what is a kokedama? Well the direct translation of the word is moss ball. Kokedama is a style of Japanese bonsai made by taking your plant out of it's pot and into a ball of soil held together with a unique soil mixture, moss and string.
What you'll need to get started	Physical demo	1 min	Okay so before we get started it's a good idea to get all your materials out and ready to go. We'll be getting our hands dirty so it's good to have them in easy reach. The first thing you need is the plant you'd like to make into a kokedama. When you're just getting started, I recommend using a small plant because they're easy to handle. Many plants can thrive happily in a kokedama such as ferns, succulents and cactus. You can even transform herbs into kokedamas. Today we'll be using a succulent. Next up you'll need a soil mix to pack your plant with. It's a good idea to use a really high quality mix from your nursery that is specifically designed for the type of plant you're working with. Today I am using a

			succulent mix. The other thing to note here is that I've mixed in peat with this soil. I normally use a 7:3 ratio. For anyone who doesn't know, peat comes packed really tight in a brick like this. There's instructions on the pack about how to use it and it's really cheap, so it's worth adding it in. You'll need to pour some soil into the mix. There's no science to this, but basically you want a consistency so that when you squeeze the soil mix together it holds its shape. Next up we use sphagnum moss. Now this also comes dried out and compressed in a brick. You'll need to separate it all out so that it looks like this. It's also a good idea to add some water to your moss so that it is damp when we start working with it. We'll also need some cotton, use a natural fibre if possible and some twine to wrap around our plant. Don't forget to have scissors on hand as we'll need them later. You can also use some coloured twine at the end to decorate your kokedama, or you can leave it natural. If you don't want to get your hands dirty or you're working with a spikey plant, you'll want to wear gloves. For me, getting my hands dirty is the best bit! It's takes me back to making mud pies as a child.
Getting your hands dirty	Physical demo	5 mins	Okay so now that we've got all of our materials ready go we can dive in and start making our kokedama. 1. Remove your plant from its pot and gently remove any excess soil. We need to be careful that we don't damage the roots, but at the same time we need to also make sure we aerate the roots. This will help our plant be healthy and happy well into the future. 2. Now using one hand grab some soil and holding the plant away from you transfer it onto the soil. Keep doing this with each hand and start to form a nice firmly packed round ball. If you're finding that the soil isn't sticking together you might need to add some extra water to your mix. If you're finding that the soil is just sliding away, it might be too watery. Don't worry you can just wring out and excess water like this. You need to make sure that all of your plant's roots are covered by soil so that none are exposed. 3. Next up, we take a small portion of moss

			into one hand and then move the kokedama onto it, again facing the plant away. It's also a good idea to start with just a small amount of moss as it's easier to manage. This is where things can start to fall apart literally. You now need to secure the moss to the ball using cotton. Go heavy handed while you do this, don't be afraid to use a lot of cotton. And don't worry about how your plant looks at this stage. It will be covered in twine in the end. 4. Okay so now we need to repeat this process and keep adding and securing more moss. We need to make sure that all of the soil is covered entirely in moss, this is really important otherwise you'll find your kokedama might disintegrate down the track. Also make sure you're wrapping the cotton really tightly. It's okay to start loose just to secure the moss, but you need to do a really tight layer at the end. Another tip is to make sure that you remember to check the bottom is covered, and also that the top around your plant is covered. 5. Once our plant is covered in moss it's onto the twine. I find this part pretty therapeutic, because you really get into the swing of it. So we're covering our plant and moss in twine. Make sure you tightly wrap over the first piece of string to that there's no ends exposed. Again, make sure you do your wrapping really tightly because you don't want your twine to unravel down the track. 6. Now there's two different styles of kokedamas. You can totally wrap it and hide all of the moss and cotton like the examples I've shown previous. Or once it is secure you can stop and leave some of the moss exposed like this. It really comes down to personal preference. Leaving some of the moss exposed is a more earthy and organic feel. 7. In this instance I will keep going and cover all of the moss. Once you're happy with how the twine looks, you need to secure it. Cut off the twine (leaving a bit of a tail). Then we need to tuck the tail under a really tight piece of twine like this. If your twine is too tight, you can actually use scissors to get it under. This part is really important because it will keep our kokie in shape. 8. And there you have it! You've created your first kokedama, next up is displaying your kokedama.
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Creative ways to display Kokies	Physical demo Or slides?	3 mins	Generally there's two ways to display your kokedama. Firstly you can display it sitting. To do this you might need to flatten out the bottom of your kokie so it can sit up. You can gently bang it against the table to flatten out. If you're kokedama is going to sit, many people like to have them sitting in dishes or glass bowls to display them. Alternatively you can hang your kokedama and display it like this. You'll need to tie a piece of twine back on to your ball, or when you cut it off in the first place you can leave some extra to hang it from. There's two ways to hang it. Either sitting up right like this. Or to the side like this. Make sure you tie the knots close to the top of your kokedama.
How to care for your Kokie	Slides	2 min	- Outline the different ways to water your kokie - Encourage people to access watering resource
That's a wrap	Talking head	30 seconds	Thank you

Class Project

Project Description

Provide an quick overview of the assignment. Feel free to list out steps, tips, additional resources, or anything else that will help students successfully do the project and upload their work to your class's Project Gallery.

Don't be deceived, although Kokedamas are beautiful they're actually super easy to make at home. Create your very own Moss Ball and practice the ancient Japanese art of Kokedama.

Material you'll need to get started

- Small plant of your choice (ferns and succulents are easy to get started with)
- Sphagnum moss
- Cotton
- Soil mix
- Twine
- Scissors
- Coloured twine for decoration

All of these materials can be found at hardware stores.

Watch the videos and I'll step you through the process. I'd love to see how yours turn out, make sure you upload photos in the project gallery!