

If you've outgrown sphagnum moss and water propagation, then Hydro Clay may be on the cards for your next project. Hydro Clay is also known as leca, clay balls or hydro balls. Whatever you know it as, it's an easy method to experiment with for quick, successful results.



Hydro Clay Set Up Two Pots Required



1 Nursery pot (with holes) fill to half way with hydro clay and insert cutting.



2 Continue filling pot with hydro clay to stabilise cutting.





3 Place nursery pot into a cache pot with no drainage holes (a) or onto a saucer (b).



4 Add water into the cache pot so the nursery pot is covered 1/3 of its height (a), or fill the saucer (b).



Sphagnum Propagation Examples



Hydro Clay Propagation Examples

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Clay Balls

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LECA Clay Balls is a growing medium, like soil, in which you can grow your plants.



- Less risk of pests
- & root rot.

 Improves aeration
- and drainage Natural, pH-neutral,
- Non-Toxic. Easy watering
- and decorative

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Hydro Clay





Top Tip

Soak hydro clay in water the night before use.
If your cutting is not growing or absorbing the water, ensure you are changing out the water on a weekly basis.

Hydro Clay consists of spheres of expanded clay, which are baked at a high heat. Compared to water and sphagnum moss, when using Hydro Clay for propagating, the roots develop faster. This is due to the hydro clay set-up. Your cutting is never sitting in water, so the plant material is forced to find the water, and in turn creates a lot of roots quickly.

Potting on

After 2–6 months, depending on your cutting type, you can pot the cutting into Kiwicare Gro-Sure Houseplant Potting Mix, which contains all the nutrients your plant requires and provides a gentle feed. There is no need to remove the Hydro Clay balls if they are tangled in the cutting's roots; just plant hydro clay and all. Do not provide any strong NPK-based liquid fertiliser after potting on as this may burn the roots of the now formed plant. Ensure you are potting on into a pot that is only a few centimeters larger than the root ball that has formed on your plant. This is to prevent any over-potting, which can cause root rot.



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