




PROPAGATION



Propagation is the process of taking a piece of a plant and reproducing new plants from it. There are a range of awesome benefits that make this form of plant reproduction so good! These include:





-  It's faster and easier than growing plants from a seed.
-  You get exact genetic replicas of the parent plant.
-  They're super cute and make for amazing decorations!

WHAT TO PROPAGATE

Herbs

-  Mint
-  Rosemary
-  Basil
-  Sage
-  Oregano

Indoor Plants

-  Pothos *just to name a few...*
-  Most types of Ivy
-  Snake plant - *cut the leaf perpendicular to its length and place the cut end in water.*
-  String of heart/pearls/bananas - *make sure there are no leaves in the water, take 15-20cm snippets of vine.*

TOP TIPS

Most of the time you should not put leaves in water.

Use sharp scissors or a scalpel as it will help you get the cleanest cut without damaging the plant.

A cutting from the newer growth will have a higher chance of propagating successfully.

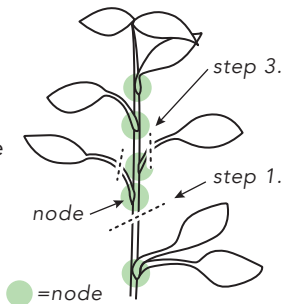
Use filtered water or rain water if possible - these don't have fluoride or chloride, and you won't get an ugly build up of minerals on the walls of your propagation equipment.



1. Cut the plant below a node, about 1 cm away from the joint, at a 45° angle. (see diagram)

2. Optional: use a rooting gel like Clonex Purple Rooting Hormone to seal the cut and boost the rooting process.

3. Trim any excess leaves - The more leaves there are on your plant stem, the more nutrients and water the plant will need to survive. If it needs too much water, the plant leaves and stem may shrivel up and die before the roots get a chance to grow. If you trim off excess growth, you're more likely to get some strong root development. It can be hard to judge how much you should trim, but as you get more experienced it will be easier to identify how much you need to trim off.



4. Insert the cut and trimmed node into your propagation vessel, ensuring the leaves are out of the water.

5. Drain out water and replace once a week. Plants suck up oxygen from the water they're in. As oxygen levels decrease, the plant roots become more likely to fail.

6. Place your cutting under a grow light, or in an area with bright, indirect sunlight.

7. Rooting can take 2-4 weeks.

8. Once your roots are 3-5cm long, they're most likely strong enough to support a plant. You can leave them in the propagation vial as a beautiful display, or transplant them into rockwool cubes or soil.



What is a node? Any point where a leaf is coming out of a main stem or vine. (See diagram above)



Cuttings require stable temperature and humidity to thrive.

Temperature around the 21°C mark, with high humidity levels, is ideal.



Light requirements - Cuttings will thrive off light between 400 and 500nm (which is seen as blue light). Keep this in mind when using a grow light. Alternatively, bright indirect sunlight will do the job.