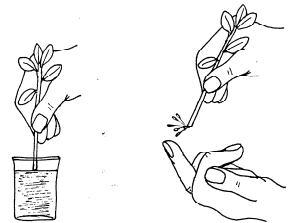


## HOUSEPLANT CUTTINGS

The propagation of cuttings is a simple and economical method to produce new houseplants. Cuttings are a quick and satisfying way to increase your own indoor plant collection as well as providing welcome gifts.

General instructions for propagating houseplants:

- Water plants the day before taking cuttings. This will reduce stress and dehydration.
- Rooting Mediums: Use a mix of half perlite and half medium grade peat moss **OR** half vermiculite and half medium grade peat moss or coarse sand.
- Rooting Hormones: Cuttings will succeed without hormone treatment but these products (such as Rootone) speed up the process. Be careful to treat only the tip of cutting. See illustration for proper application.
- Many cuttings can be rooted in one shallow container to save space and medium.
- Place containers of cuttings inside plastic bags and tie closed to retain moisture. Use supports to hold plastic up to keep it from touching cuttings.
- Place containers in a warm, brightly lit area. **Avoid** direct sun since the resulting trapped heat will damage cuttings.
- Check containers regularly to ensure that there is adequate moisture. Punch a few holes in the plastic if soil is too wet.
- Check for rooting by tugging gently on cuttings. When you feel resistance, cuttings are ready for transplant. Gently lift and plant into separate three-inch pots.



Touch only  
cut surface to  
hormone and  
fungicide

Flick off excess  
from tip

### INSTRUCTIONS FOR SPECIFIC TYPES OF CUTTINGS:

#### TIP CUTTINGS

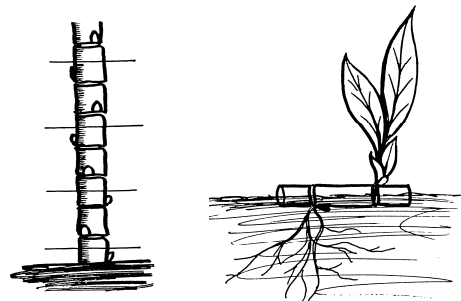
- Fill containers with rooting mix.
- Make small holes with your finger, pencil, etc.
- Take cuttings from newer fast-growing stems.
- Cut just below the third or fourth pair of leaves. Strip lower pair(s) of leaves, leaving two sets of leaves.
- Place bare stems in rooting mix.



## CANE CUTTINGS

Use this method for plants such as Dieffenbachia, various dracaenas or Chinese evergreen.

- Cut cane-like stems into sections containing one or two nodes.
- Dust ends with fungicide or activated charcoal, then dry for several hours. Lay the cutting horizontally with half of the cutting below the medium surface, node facing upward.
- When shoots and roots form, pot into three-inch pots.



## LEAF CUTTINGS

Containers of leaf cuttings are put under plastic using same method as for stem cuttings.

### Whole Leaves

- This method works especially well with plants having fleshy leaves such as begonias, African violets and gloxinias.
- Cut healthy, mature leaves from parent plant. Leave about one inch of leaf stalk (petiole) if possible.
- Insert stalk into soil so that leaf blades touch mix.



### Cut or Scored Leaves

- Leaves with prominent veins such as those found on begonias and Cape primrose will produce new plants when they are scored or cut into pieces.
- Leaves or pieces of leaves are placed so that veins are in contact with rooting medium.
- When small plants develop, carefully lift, separate and pot them individually in 3-inch pots.
- Some succulents such as *Sansevieria* can simply be cut into sections resulting in many new plants.



The following plants may be propagated by leaf cuttings:

<i>Begonia</i>	
<i>Crassula</i>	Jade plant
<i>Gloxinia</i>	
<i>Saint paulia</i>	African violet
<i>Sansevieria</i>	Mother-In-Law plant, Snake plant
<i>Sedum</i>	Burro's Tail, Stonecrop
<i>Streptocarpus</i>	Cape Primrose

In addition to the *Crassula sp.* and *Sedum sp.*, many other succulents can be propagated by leaf cuttings.

## PLANTLETS

Plantlets are "babies" on new plants that grow on the parent plant's leaves, stolons, stems or flowers.

- Detach small plants. Leave about one inch of stalk or stolon where appropriate.
- Insert stalk or base of plantlet so that plantlet rests on surface of rooting medium.
- Roots should form in a few weeks. Pot new plants in three-inch containers.
- Plantlets of spider plants can be rooted while still attached to main plant and then detached when roots have formed.



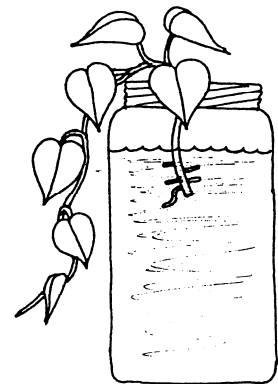
The following plants produce plantlets:

*Chlorophytum* Spider Plant  
*Saxifraga stolonifera* Mother-Of-Thousands, Strawberry Begonia  
*Tolmiea* Mother-Of-Thousands, Piggyback Plant  
*Bromeliad*



## ROOTING STEM CUTTINGS IN WATER

- This is one of the most common and popular methods of propagating new plants.
- Use a glass or a jar of water. Place in bright, warm area.
- Use a clean, sharp blade. Remove healthy cuttings about four to six inches in length. Choose stems with only a short distance between nodes. Cut just above a node.
- Next, trim the cutting to just below a node. Remove lower leaves so that you have a length of bare stem at the base.
- Insert the cutting through wire mesh or some other support so that stem is suspended in the water.
- Keep water topped so that lower part of cutting is always below water surface.
- Roots should develop soon. When cuttings have a **small** network of roots, plant each in a three-inch container. If you allow cutting to produce an extensive root system it may not transplant well or possibly not at all. See illustration.
- In general, any plant with a leafy stem will propagate in water. Some that do particularly well are coleus, geranium, ivy, peperomia and pothos.



Plants That Root Easily In Water:

*Coleus*  
*Impatiens*  
*Geraniums*  
*Ivy*

The following plants may be propagated by stem cuttings:

<i>Abutilon</i>	Chinese lantern, flowering maple
<i>Acalypha</i>	Chemille Pl., Red-hot cattail
<i>Aeschynanthus</i>	Lipstick plant
<i>Alloplectus</i>	Goldfish plant
<i>Bougainvillea</i>	
<i>Brunfelsia</i>	
<i>Callisia</i>	
<i>Catharanthus</i>	Periwinkle, Vinca Rosea
<i>Cissus</i>	Grape Ivy
<i>Codiaeum</i>	Croton, Joseph's Coat
<i>Coleus</i>	
<i>Columnnea</i>	
<i>Crassula</i>	Jade Plant
<i>Crossandra</i>	Firecracker Plant
<i>Euphorbia pulcherrima</i>	Poinsettia
<i>Ficus</i>	Figs, Rubber plant
<i>Fittonia</i>	Mosaic plant, Nerve plant
<i>Gardenia</i>	Cape jasmine
<i>Geranium</i>	Cranesbill
<i>Gynura</i>	Purple Passion Vine, Velvet Plant
<i>Hibiscus</i>	Rose Mallow
<i>Hoya</i>	Wax plant
<i>Impatiens</i>	
<i>Iresine</i>	Bloodleaf
<i>Ixora</i>	Jungle geranium
<i>Jasminum</i>	Jasmine
<i>Justicia</i>	Shrimp plant
<i>Kalanchoe</i>	
<i>Mandevilla</i>	
<i>Nephtytis</i>	Angel wing
<i>Pachystachys</i>	Golden Candle
<i>Passiflora</i>	Passion Flower
<i>Pelargonium</i>	Geranium
<i>Pellionia</i>	Trailing Watermelon Begonia
<i>Pentas</i>	Star Clusters
<i>Peperomia</i>	Radiator Plant
<i>Philodendron</i>	
<i>Pilea</i>	Aluminum plant, Baby's Tears, Creeping Charlie
<i>Plumbago</i>	Leadwort
<i>Polyscias</i>	
<i>Pothos</i>	
<i>Rhoicissus</i>	Evergreen grape ivy
<i>Schlumbergera</i>	Christmas cactus
<i>Stephanotis</i>	Madagascar jasmine, Waxflower
<i>Tradescantia</i>	Inch plant, Wandering Jew



**Codiaeum**



**Ficus elastica**



**Peperomia**