



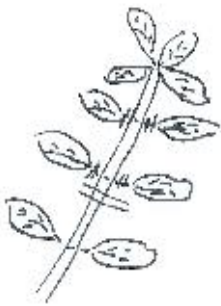
## Fact Sheet

# 7

## Propagating House Plants: Stem Cuttings

Stem cuttings are a simple way to get a new plant from an old favorite! The method works reliably with many common houseplants.

Select the “Mother Plant” and gather your equipment. You will need a clean, sharp knife or scissors, a clean 2” pot, and clean growing medium (vermiculite, perlite, or a commercial growing medium). Do not use garden soil.



1. Cut a 3 to 5 inch piece from the tip of a healthy branch, including at least the tip and second and third leaves. Be sure to cut just below the last leaf.
2. Remove the bottom two sets of leaves. Roots will form at the base where the leaves have been removed.
3. Dip the end of the stem into a rooting hormone product (liquid or powder) to encourage new growth.
4. Insert the prepared cutting in a small pot filled with a moist medium to a depth equal to the length of the bare stem. Place the cuttings, in their containers, in a plastic bag. You may place a small stake in the pot with the cutting to support the bag.
5. When roots have formed, open the bag for a few days, and then remove the new little plant from the bag entirely. If you used perlite or vermiculite, repot with your favorite growing medium.
6. Treat the new plant as you would any other plant, but watch it carefully until it is well-established.

### Can I propagate my plant from a stem cutting?

This method works with most plants that have noticeable stems. Plants easily propagated from stem cuttings include begonia, chrysanthemum, coleus, ivy, fuchsia, geranium, impatiens, and philodendron. If yours is not listed here, search the web for reports on cultivation and propagation techniques.