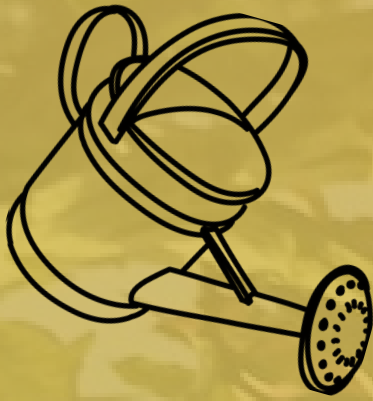


PLANT PROPAGATION

cheat sheet

GENERAL TIPS



Make sure the propagation zone is:

- clean and free of mold
- protected from extreme temperatures
- slug-free

Buy peat-free potting soil or sterilise home-made potting compost.

Baking soil to 180°F/80°C will kill any pests, diseases and weed seeds.

Water seedlings gently and evenly.

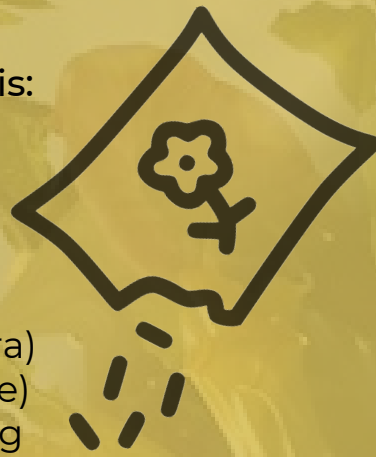
SEED STARTING

Most seeds need an environment that is:

- light & fluffy growing medium
- warm (64-70° F/18-21°C)
- moist

Some seeds also need:

- light
- warmer temp (hot peppers, corn, okra)
- cooler temp (spinach, cilantro, lettuce)
- scattering on soil rather than planting
- scarification to open the seed coat
- stratification to simulate deep winter



CLONING



- **Division** (herbaceous plants): cut or pry apart root sections
- **Layering** (shrubs and ground covers): pin down branch tip to ground so it grows roots, then snip free and plant.
- **Cuttings** (many herbs and shrubs): Snip a 4-node section, trim off large leaves, and gently place in water or rooting medium with 2 nodes below, 2 above.
- **Live staking** (willows, ribes, many tropical plants): stick cuttings straight into moist ground.

GRAFTING

Grafts press the green living wood, cambium, of two plants together. Seal the graft union with wax or foil.

Combine rootstock (chosen for size of tree) and scion (cutting - chosen for variety). Rootstock and scionwood need to be close to the same size.

Different types of grafts (ways to join):

- **Whip**: Elongated to expose more cambium.
- **Whip and tongue**: 'Tongue' added to structurally support the graft.
- **Cleft**: Scionwood inserted into split rootstock. Rootstock is wider than scion.
- **Bud**: Scionbud is inserted into the rootstock cambium. Can be done in early summer.