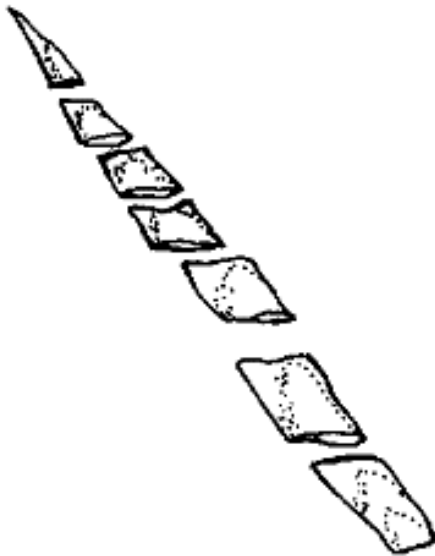


Leaf Cuttings

Did you know that some plants can be propagated from just a leaf or a section of a leaf. This doesn't work on just every plant, some plants will grow only a few roots or just decay. Because leaf cuttings do not include an axillary bud, they can be used only for plants that can form adventitious buds. There are several types of leaf cuttings.

Propagation for Leaves without a Petiole



This method of propagation works well with Snake Plant

Steps:

Obtain a 4 or 6 in pot and fill it completely with damp soil

Select a healthy stem from your plant. This stalk should not be wilted or have edges that appear to be browning or burnt

Remove the entire stem from the plant, cutting as close to the soil as possible ***Make sure to note which end is up on your stem at all time

Starting at the bottom measure 3-4 inches up and cut across the stem removing the bottom portion of the plant ***remember to keep track of which end is up, you can place an up arrow with a marker if necessary

before you make your cut to help you remember

Plant the bottom piece that was removed from the plant into your 6in pot, you need to bury at least an inch of the stem and firm the soil around it so the piece stays upright in the soil.

Repeat the last two steps until you have used up your entire stem

Your cuttings should be spread out evenly around the entire pot. You want plenty of room around each cutting for your plant to grow.

You will need to keep your cuttings watered, keeping the soil damp at all times.

Avoid the temptation of pulling your new cuttings out of the soil to check for roots, this could damage the tiny root hairs and take longer for the plant to get an established root system

After 2 -3 week, carefully check your pot for roots by turning the entire pot over on its side and leaning the pot forward. This will allow the plant to fall forward as well.

Being careful not to disturb too much of the root system check to see if your new plant has a nice supply of healthy white roots. If it does you can separate your cuttings into their own pot.

This is a free resource provided by Georgia Agricultural Education
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