



# Plants from Plants - Fact Sheet

## What is plant propagation?

Plant propagation involves the creation of new plants from the seeds, bulbs, division, cuttings, layering, budding or grafting of existing plants.

## Why propagate plants from plants?

Successful plant propagation may allow you to create 10, or even 100, plants from the one original plant. These new plants make great gifts for friends and family, can be sold or bartered, or used to make your own garden burst with life.

Plant reproduction is vital for ongoing survival, not only the plants themselves but, for all of us. Learning about plant reproduction is fascinating and fun for all ages. Growing plants from seed, or seeing the first signs of new growth from a cutting, may also promote a deep sense of satisfaction and a feeling of true connection with nature.

## How to propagate plants

Some of the ways through which plants can propagate include seeds, cuttings, division, bulbs, layering, budding and grafting.

When propagating plants from cuttings a sharp pair of secateurs is an essential tool. To take a cutting most plants should be cut either just above or just below the 'nodes' on the plant stems. The nodes are the lumps on the stems of plants where leaves and new shoots emerge. The role of nodes is also important for the correct pruning of trees also. New growth comes from the 'nodes' so when pruning trees, always make your cuts just above a node.

When growing plants from seeds, the size of the seed may influence the appropriate method of planting. For example, a small carrot seed may need to be planted shallow in the soil compared to the larger pumpkin seeds.

## Plant propagation facts

- All plants have male and female parts. In some plants these parts are within the same flower while for others there are separate male and female members and flowers. For example, the plants of the Cucurbit family (including pumpkins, zucchini & squash) have quite distinct and separate male and female flowers.
- Plants are continually changing from a 'vegetative' (leaf growing) phase to a reproductive (flowering and fruiting) phase. An understanding of these plant 'phases' is very important to be successful at plant propagation.

*To learn more about successful plant propagation come along to one of Kimbriki Eco House and Garden's [Plants from Plants](#) workshops.*

For more information visit [www.ecohouseandgarden.com.au](http://www.ecohouseandgarden.com.au), email us at [info@ecohouseandgarden.com.au](mailto:info@ecohouseandgarden.com.au) or contact us via the Kimbriki Resource Recovery Centre on 02 9486 3512 (Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday).

