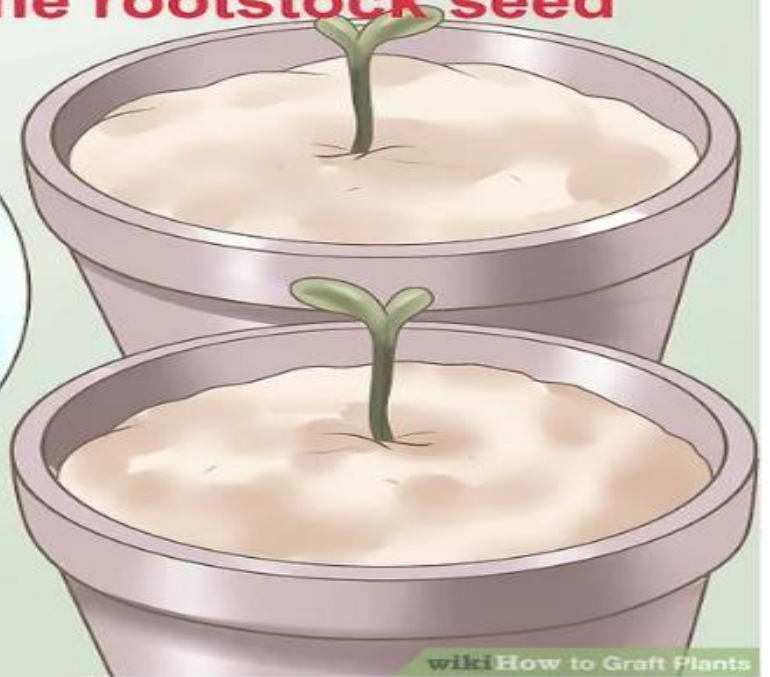
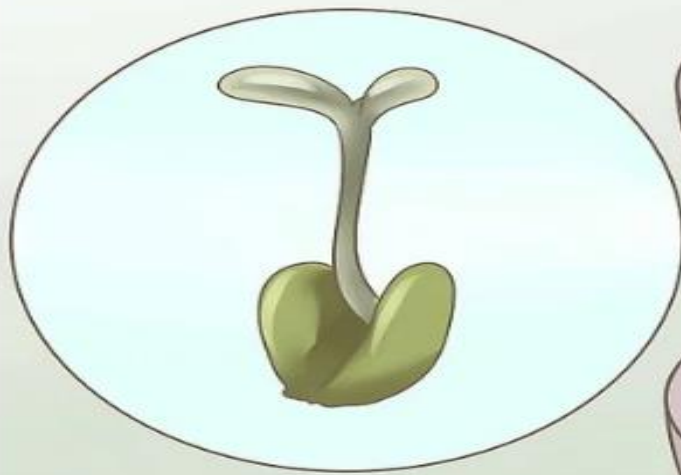


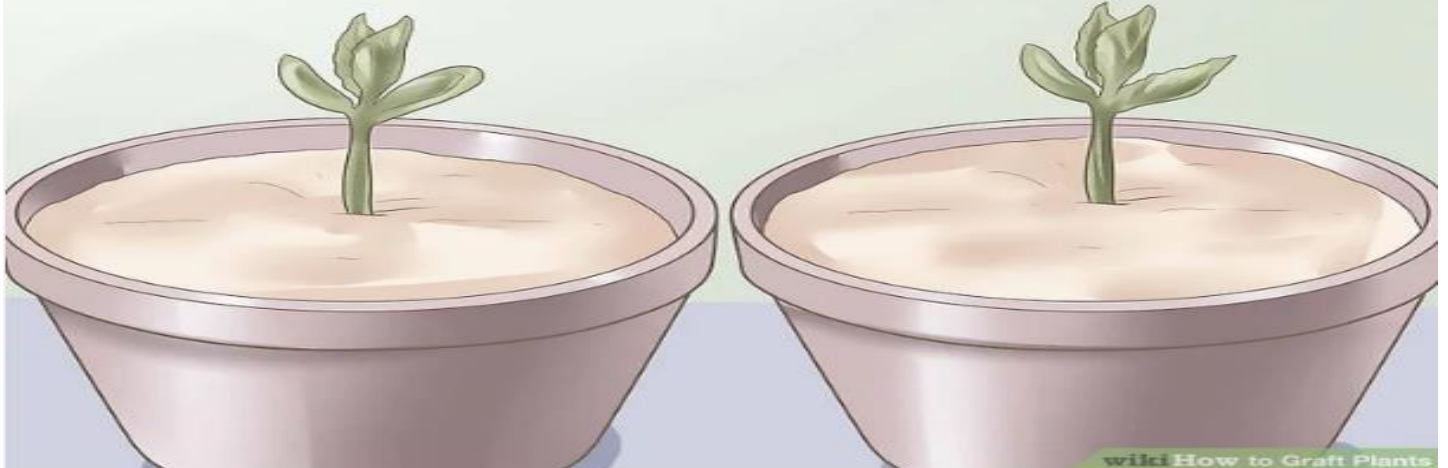
5–7 days before the rootstock seed



wiki How to Graft Plants

1 Plant the scion seed 5–7 days before the rootstock seed. As a general rule, the scion seed, which is selected for its fruit, should be planted earlier than the rootstock seed, selected for other qualities such as disease resistance.^[13] You can plant at more precise times if you know the growing rate of each variety.

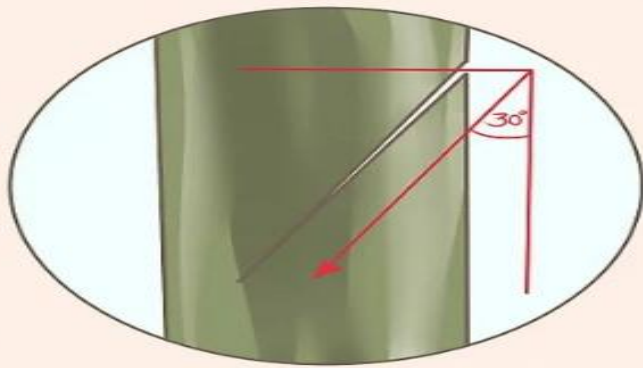
- Plant in small containers. For this method, you will need to attach the two plants while each is still attached to its own roots, so they need to be able to reach each other without being transplanted.



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2 Prepare to graft when both plants have their first true leaf. The first leaves to emerge from a seedling are small seed leaves that do not look like the leaves of an adult plant. After one or two of these have grown, a true leaf with a noticeably different shape will grow. When both plants are at this stage, they are ready to be grafted together.^[14]

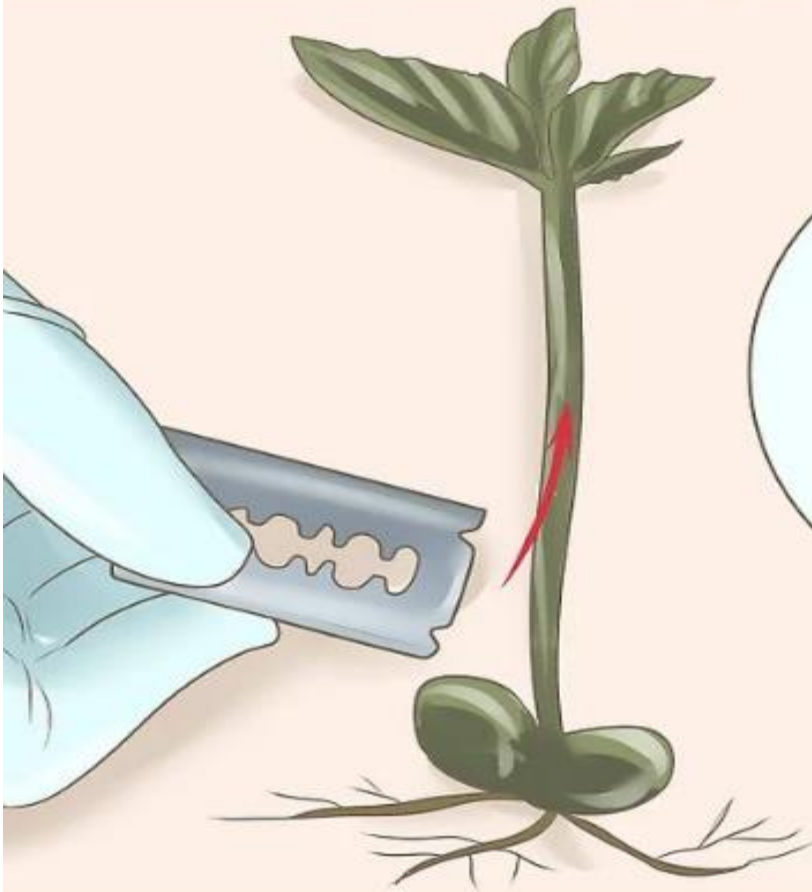
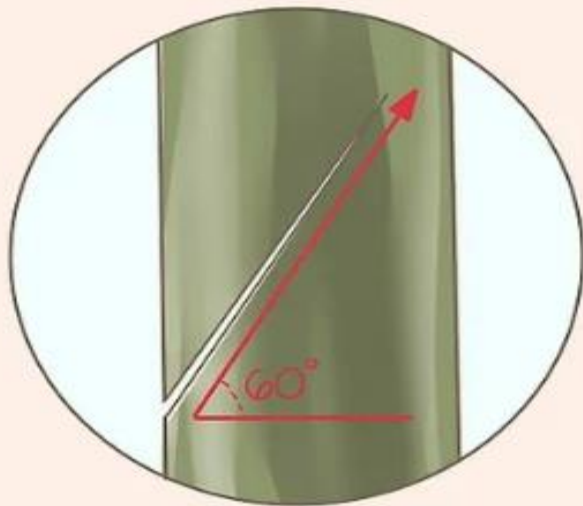
- You'll have the highest chance of success if the stems of each plant are almost the same diameter and height, although it's not absolutely vital for this method.^[15]



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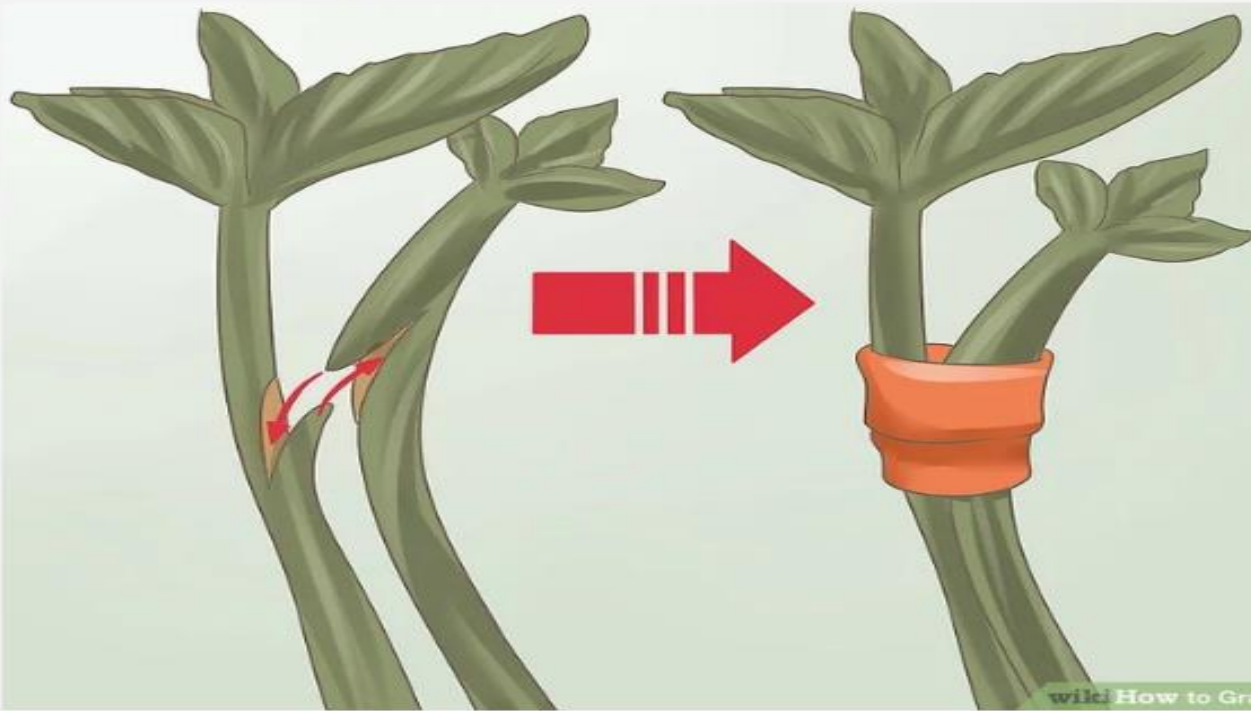
3 Use a clean razor blade to make a downward cut partly through the rootstock. You should cut approximately halfway through the stem, with a sharp downward cut, between a 30° and 60° angle.^{[16][17][18]} Choose a point on the stem below the seed leaf.^[19]

- Always use a sanitized razor blade and wear latex gloves. This reduces the chance of infection to the plant. Because the cut requires precision, an ordinary sharp knife does not work as well for this method.



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4 Make an upward cut at a matching angle partly through the scion stem. Again, choose a point below the seed leaf and cut approximately halfway through the plant. The cut you make should be angled upward so the two cuts can easily be joined together.



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5 Hook the two plants together at the cut and fasten. Hook the upper "tongue" of the scion plant into the wedge created by the cut in the rootstock plant. Secure the joint with a grafting clip or by wrapping it in lead tape.^[20]

- Labeling each plant at this point is a great idea, especially if the varieties look similar. If you get them confused in the next step, you could end up removing the best part of each plant instead of the worst.



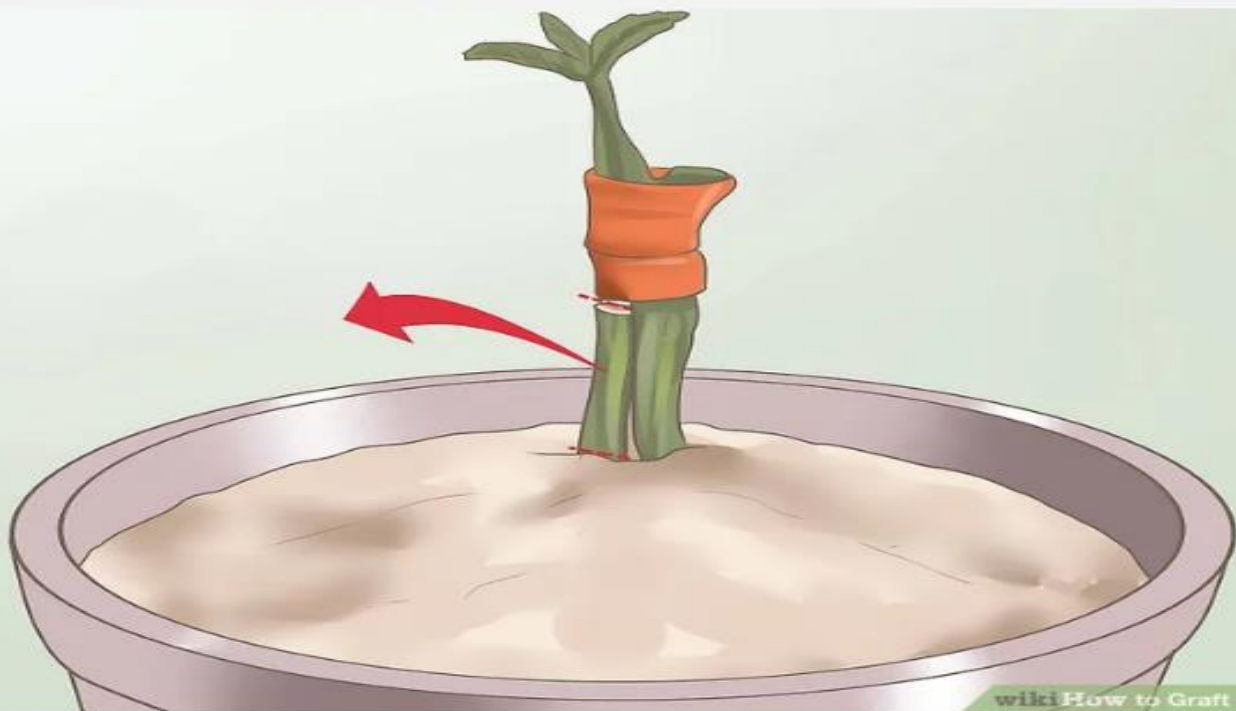
wikiHow to Graft Plants

6 Wait until the cuts have fully healed together. Unlike the top grafting method, you do not need to place your new hybrid plant in a special healing chamber, since each plant is still able to transport water from its own roots to its leaves. Keeping them in greenhouse conditions appropriate to the species is still a good idea, especially if you are growing a large number of plants.



7 Remove the top of the rootstock plant after about seven days. If the plant looks healthy and isn't wilting by now, the graft is probably going to be a success. You can cut off the top of the rootstock plant above the join.^[21]

- Use a sanitized razor blade, as before.



8 Remove the scion's roots. Keep an eye on the plant's health. If the cut appears healed and the leaves are full and not wilted, you can cut off the scion's lower half, below the join. This is typically done a week after the graft, at the same time you remove the top of the rootstock. If the plant looks slow to recover, you may wait an additional few days to be safe.^{[22][23]}



- 9** Remove the clip or tape. Now that the cuts have healed and you've successfully joined the two plants, you may remove the clip or tape holding them together. Continue to care for your plant as you would an ordinary, un-grafted plant of the rootstock's variety.