

Step-by-Step: Propagate Hydrangeas from Stem Cuttings

- 1. **Select a healthy stem:** Choose a non-flowering stem from the current season's growth (12-15 cm long).
- 2. **Prepare the cutting:** Cut just below a node, remove the lower leaves, and trim the top leaves in half.
- 3. **Apply rooting hormone:** Dip the cut end in hormone powder or gel to encourage rooting.
- 4. **Plant the cutting:** Insert into moist, well-draining potting mix with at least one node buried.
- 5. Maintain humidity: Cover with a plastic bag or place in a propagator to retain moisture.
- 6. **Provide indirect light:** Keep in bright, indirect light at 18-21°C and mist regularly.
- 7. **Check root growth:** After 4-6 weeks, gently tug to test for resistance, indicating rooting.
- 8. Acclimatise and transplant: Gradually remove humidity cover and pot into larger containers when roots are strong.

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