



Grow your own everlasting basil from cuttings: Instructions



Take a cutting

1. Use scissors to cut long stems (about 5 cm) from an existing plant (*I buy a supermarket herb pot at the beginning of summer for this or you can use the packets of basil too, or get donations from a friend...*).



2. Use scissors (or your finger and thumb) to gently strip off the lower leaves. This gives you a long knobby stem with just the top 4/5 leaves.



Getting rooted

1. Put the basil stems into an old jar, cup or bottle and fill with tap water to cover most of the stem.
2. The top leaves help you balance the cutting on the jar edge.
3. Leave somewhere sunny like a windowsill.
4. Check the water level stays within 1 cm of the top and refresh if needed.
5. In about 2 weeks you should have a healthy set of roots.
6. Once the roots are about 2 cm long they are ready for repotting.



Repotting

1. Fill an old plant pot (*or yoghurt pot with holes in the bottom*) with soil or compost.
2. Make a hole in the compost at least the size of the roots and drop the cutting in, then cover over the roots with compost.
3. Water well and place somewhere sunny – the windowsill or outside.
4. Check every 2-3 days and keep watering to keep the compost moist.
5. Once you have 2 or 3 sets of leaves, pinch out the very top one. This will encourage new stems to grow from below so your plant is nice and bushy.
6. Pick leaves as needed (always leaving a few to keep growing).
7. **REPEAT FOR EVERLASTING BASIL**