

Salvia Cuttings — Quick Guide

Best Candidates

- *Salvia nemorosa* (spring softwood)
- *S. microphylla* / *S. greggii* (late-summer semi-ripe)
- *S. officinalis* (culinary; division or semi-ripe)

Softwood (Spring-Early Summer)

- Take 8–10 cm non-flowering tips just below a node; strip lower leaves.
- Optional hormone dip; insert into 50:50 peat-free compost : perlite; firm gently.
- Water, then cover with a clear dome/bag held off foliage; vent daily.
- Bright, indirect light. Aim for 18–22 °C at the base. Roots in 2–4 weeks.

Semi-ripe (Late Summer)

- Take 8–12 cm tips with a slightly firm base (not woody).
- Use a 40% compost : 40% fine bark : 20% perlite mix for airflow.
- Gentle bottom warmth helps; keep just moist and well ventilated.

Potting-On

- Pot when a gentle tug meets resistance or roots reach ~3–4 cm.
- After potting, give light shade for 2–3 days; feed half-strength after 7–10 days.

Common Problems

- Blackening stems → mix too wet/cold. Refresh cut, use airier medium, add warmth and airflow.
- Wilting after potting → oversize pot or shock. Step up gradually, shade briefly, keep just moist.

Label Format

- Example: “*S. nemorosa* — softwood — 12-May”