

# Grodan Cuttings and Seed Cubes - Instructions



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## Overview

Thank you for purchasing Grodan Cuttings Seed Cubes. This popular Rockwool-based growing medium should be used to raise young plants to the point where emerging roots can be seen. You then need to plant them on into larger Grodan Transplanting Cubes or another suitable medium.

## Recommended Products

Propagator	from <b>£6.99</b>
Fluorescent Light	from <b>£79.99</b>
Disposable Cloning Scalpel (each)	<b>£0.85</b>
Clonex Rooting Gel	from <b>£4.25</b>
pH Down from	<b>£4.50</b>
pH Test Kit	<b>£4.50</b>
Pipette 3ml	<b>£0.10</b>

## Cuttings or Seeds?

At the beginning of your grow you need to decide whether to start out with cuttings or seeds. Both work well for most plant species and varieties. For succulents and cacti use rooting powders not gels. For expensive, exotic or more troublesome varieties you may need to consult some more plant specific information.

## The Growing from Cuttings/Cloning Method

Growing from cuttings allows you to duplicate a particular plant that has already been successful. To do so:

**1**

Find a healthy growing tip and remove the new shoots and leaves about 10cm (4") from the back of the tip.

**2**

At the base of this nodal intersection make a clean diagonal cut removing the cutting from the mother plant using a disposable cloning scalpel.

**3**

Immediately place the cutting in a good rooting gel, such as Clonex, and leave for a minute or two.

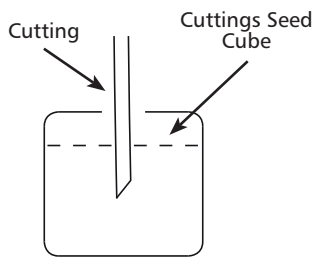
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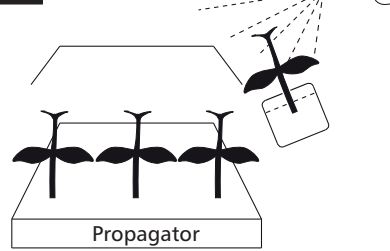
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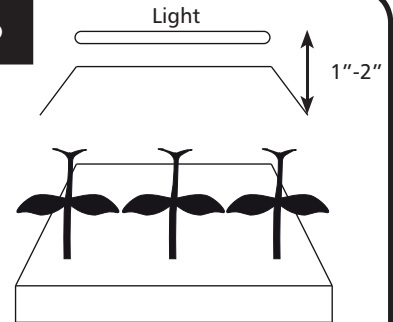
Pre-soak a cuttings seed cube in a 2ml of Vita Link Plant Start per 1 litre of water solution. Add the feed to the solution first then check the pH level, ensuring it is about 6. If the pH is higher, you will need to add a drop of pH Down. When totally soaked in this solution, lightly pinch the cube to release some excess moisture. Put the cube onto a tray, then firmly insert your cutting half way into it.

5



Lightly mist the cutting with water and place it in your propagator alongside any other cuttings. These should not be left standing in water but must not be allowed to dry out.

6



Place your propagator in your grow chamber. Have your light about an inch or two above it (we recommend using a T5 High Output Propagation Light).

If you've got a fluorescent light you can alternatively place the tube directly on the propagator lid.

- Close the vents on the propagator for the first few hours until you see a light misting of moisture on the inside of the lid, then open the vents slightly to maintain these conditions.
- Every other day, lift the lid, wipe any excess moisture off the inside of the lid, mist the plants with water and replace the lid. Adjust the vents as necessary.
- A good humidity level is around 70 to 80% relative humidity.
- A good temperature is around 75°F or 24°C.
- Roots will emerge from each cube after 10 to 20 days. The cuttings are now rooted and ready to be transplanted into Grodan Transplanting Cubes or another suitable form of media. Soak cubes and feed at every watering with a half strength soft nutrient (e.g. Vita Link Plant Start) solution (5ml per 1 litre of water) for a few days, and gradually give them more light.

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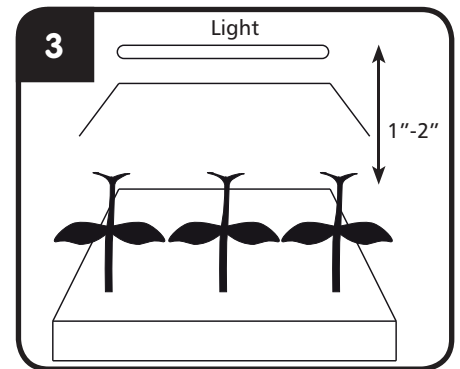
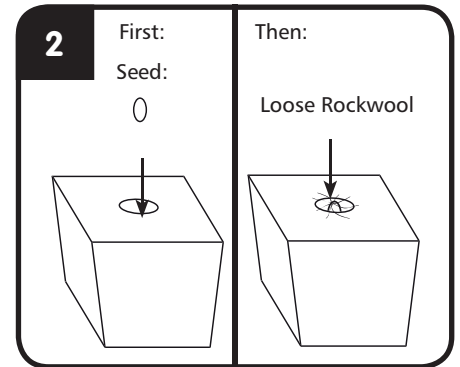
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## The Growing from Seeds Method

It is sometimes a good option to grow from seeds as opposed to cuttings, maybe because you don't have a mother plant or if you are new to indoor growing. To germinate seeds you can either do so on wet tissue and then manually transfer them to Cuttings Seed Cubes or you can start them straight into Cuttings Seed Cubes inside a propagator. Using a propagator will give you more control over temperature and humidity.

### Growing Seeds WITH a Propagator

1. Pre-soak a cuttings seed cube in a 2ml of Vita Link Plant Start per 1 litre of water solution. Add the feed to the solution first then check the pH level, ensuring it is about 6. If the pH is higher, you will need to add a drop of pH Down. When totally soaked in this solution, lightly pinch the cube to release some excess moisture.
2. Make a hole in the top of the cube large enough so that a seed will sit loosely below the surface. Drag a few loose strands of rockwool over the top surface of the seed, just about hiding it from view. Now place this with other seeds on a tray in the propagator. The cubes should not be left standing in water nor should they be allowed to dry out. Mist the top and sides of the cubes if they start to dry out a little.
3. Place your propagator in your grow chamber. Have your light about an inch or two above it (we recommend using a T5 High Output Propagation Light). If you've got a fluorescent light you can alternatively place the tube directly on the propagator lid.
4. Close the vents on the propagator for the first few hours until you see a light misting of moisture on the inside of the lid, then open the vents slightly to maintain these conditions.
5. After 2 or 3 days the cracked seed shell on each plant will start to push up and out of the mix on a thin stem. Remove the propagator lid now - it is no longer needed.
6. The shell will then be discarded. The seedling can now be transplanted into a 3-inch Grodan Transplanting Cubes or any other form of media. Soak cubes and feed at every watering with half strength Vita Link Plant Start solution (5ml per 1 litre of water) for a few days, and gradually give them more light.



### Growing Seeds WITHOUT a Propagator

1. Wet several layers of tissue on a saucer with water from a hand sprayer or mister. Make sure there is no excess water in the bottom of the saucer.
2. Place the seeds on the wet tissue, leaving a small gap between them. Then place another saucer on top and move to a warm room or cupboard.
3. The seeds will crack easily using this method. Once the seed shell has cracked open on a plant a small white tap root will emerge from the crack. At this point take the seedling and insert the tap root into the hole in a pre-soaked small cube (pre-soak the cube in a 2ml of Vita Link Plant Start per 1 litre of water solution and adjust pH to about 6), leaving the shell sitting on the surface of the cube.
4. Put the seedlings a few inches away from your light, the cracked shell for each plant will start to push up and out of the cubes on a thin stem.
5. The shell will then be discarded by each plant. The seedlings can now be transplanted into 3-inch Grodan Transplanting Cubes or any other form of media. Soak cubes and feed at every watering with half strength Vita Link Plant Start solution (5ml per 1 litre of water) for a few days and give more light.

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