



project tree collard

How To Root and Grow Your Tree Collard Cuttings

Welcome to the world of tree collards! These are truly remarkable plants that, with a little bit of care, will give you an abundance of delicious, nutritious greens for years to come.

Here are the basic instructions for rooting your cuttings:

1. Unwrap the plastic bag and remove the paper from the cuttings.
2. Make a fresh cut on the bottom of your cuttings. Cut off 1/4-1/2 inch at an angle.
3. Take a 4 inch or one gallon plastic nursery can. Fill the pot with moist, high quality potting soil/compost and tamp down lightly.
4. Stick your cutting down through the soil until just about 1/3 is poking out the top. Water thoroughly until soil is moist but not soggy.
5. Place your potted cutting in partial shade and keep the soil moist.
6. Your cuttings should be ready in three to eight weeks (possibly even longer if it is very cool weather or very hot weather). You will know that you were successful when your plant has started to grow a number of new leaves. Be patient! Allow your plant to grow at least six inches before disturbing it. Pulling it out and checking on it may damage the tender new roots that are forming.

You can transplant your tree collard plant into your garden in full sun to part sun, depending on your climate. You can also transplant it into a larger pot if you are doing a container garden. Tree collards can easily grow six to eight feet tall. They will need some staking if you want them to get to this height.

It is best to put each cutting in its own pot. Four inch pots work okay if you don't have anything larger, but we don't recommend them as they dry out much faster. In a pinch you could also poke a number of holes in a large yogurt or coffee can and use it as a pot.

Tree collards can handle cold weather down into the twenties, possibly lower. However, while they are still in pots, your young cuttings should be protected from severe cold weather. We have had success rooting cuttings where they have gotten some frost, but if you are expecting more than a couple hours of below freezing weather, we suggest protecting your cuttings. You can also take cuttings before freezing weather and keep them in the refrigerator in a moist paper towel for a few months. Not all will make it, but some of the cuttings should root.

A cutting can take anywhere from three to eight weeks to root in its container, possibly even longer. Obviously, our climates all vary tremendously depending on the time of year. Generally speaking they root more quickly in warmer times of year as long as they are kept moist. At hot times of year, the cuttings will likely need some shade. An ideal place to keep your pots may be under a tree that filters the light. Shade cloth can also be used. We strongly recommend using high quality potting soil. We have had limited success rooting them in water. Rooting hormone is unnecessary and may even be counterproductive. We never use any!

Tree collards root best in mild weather conditions and will need sun. You should have a container and potting soil ready for when they arrive. We do our best to ensure a safe journey for your cuttings but cannot be responsible for cuttings that freeze or cook in your mailbox. While most customers are successful at rooting their cuttings and very happy with their plants, we cannot guarantee your success. We hope you enjoy your plants and would love to hear about how your plants do, especially if you are growing them in places that have cold climates/snow or tropical ones!

Please find us on Facebook at Project Tree Collard. We post new varieties, special sales, and recipes there. We are also at projecttreecollard on Instagram and cross list there.

We really appreciate your business and hope that you enjoy your plants for years to come. Please contact us at the e-mail below if your order was damaged during shipping. Please send photos within 24 hours of receipt to show the condition of the cuttings.

Happy Gardening!
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An example of a potted cutting



The same cutting a month later, ready to be planted

