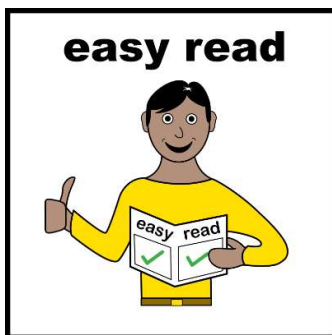


Easy read guide to pricking out



About pricking out



Pricking out means moving plants from a seed tray to individual pots.

When to prick out










You may be growing plants from seed. The **seedlings** will grow. They can get too big for the tray.



Hold the seed tray up and look at the bottom. See if there are roots poking out. This is a sign the plants need pricking out.

A **seedling** is a young plant grown from a seed.

What you need

| | |
|---|---|
|  | Tray of seedlings |
|  | Pots |
|  | Multi-purpose compost |
|  | Teaspoon |
|  | Big tray to put pot in. You could use a washing up bowl. |
|  | Watering can |
|  | Plant labels and pens. You could use lollipop sticks instead. |

How to do it



1. Fill pots with compost.



2. Tap pots gently so compost is level



3. Make hole in compost in middle of each pot. Use your finger



Goes as deep as your first finger joint



4. Gently take seedlings out of tray. Use a teaspoon



5. Carefully separate seedlings.



6. Place seedlings in pots. Put one seedling in each pot



7. Press soil gently to settle seedling into pot



9. Place plant label in pot



10. Gently water from above.



11. Put pot somewhere light and warm.

Next steps

You will need to water your plant as it keeps growing. This is how to work out if it needs water. Carefully lift the pot. If it feels light, add water. Use a small watering can to do this.

Your plant will get bigger. If you are growing indoors, you could move it into a bigger pot. This is called **potting on**.

You could also move the plant into the ground in the garden. This is called **planting out**.

We have easy read guides to potting on and planting out. Find them on our website.

Enjoy watching, smelling and feeling your plants as they grow.

Useful links

Thrive website

<https://www.thrive.org.uk/>

Thrive easy read guides

<https://www.thrive.org.uk/easyread>

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