

# Let's Get Growing

## Keep right on blooming

By MARJORIE MASON HOGUE  
Correspondent

As fall approaches, gardeners often wonder if they can keep their hanging baskets and containers blooming in the house over the winter. Moving mature plants indoors is usually a problem. Reduced light levels and drier air cause leaves to yellow and drop. If you have a solarium or greenhouse window, it may be worth a try, but for most people, the answer is to start new plants from cuttings that will overwinter happily on your windowsills.

Unfortunately, many gardeners are not successful with cuttings because they wait to begin the process until a frost is predicted. The time to take cuttings for overwintering is now, during the last two weeks of August before night-time temperatures cool down and the plants begin the hardening process in anticipation of winter.

Geraniums (correctly pelargoniums) make wonderful windowsill plants. Cuttings taken now will brighten your outlook all winter. The following instructions will also work for fuschias, impatiens, fibrous begonias, coleus, vines and even tomatoes.

1. Select tips of firm, but not woody growth, about 4" long.

2. Make a straight cut below a node (the place on a stem from which a leaf grows) with a sharp knife.

3. Snip off all the leaves and any flower buds, leaving only the terminal bud (growing tip) and one fully

developed leaf.

4. Dip the bottom node into rooting hormone. Shake off excess.

5. Stick the cutting firmly into a 1/2" to 3" pot filled with vermiculite, horticultural sand or a mixture of half soilless mix and half perlite. (Cuttings will root in water but roots are very brittle and will suffer when planted into soil mix.)

6. Water thoroughly and place in a bright but not sunny location. If cuttings appear wilted, mist frequently, but do not water again until the surface feels dry to the touch. Maintain high humidity until rooted by covering cuttings with a plastic hood.

7. Roots should develop in two to three weeks.

8. When roots fill the pot, transplant to the next larger size using a commercial potting mix to which some perlite has been added for extra drainage.

9. Most plants thrive in a bright sunny window (at least four hours of direct sun daily) at 65 to 70 degrees by day and 55 to 60 degrees at night.

10. Allow soil surface to dry slightly between thorough waterings.

11. Fertilize only when actively growing - use a balanced fertilizer e.g. 20-20-20 at one quarter strength.

Send your gardening questions or comments to: Let's Get Growing, The Tribune, 88 Brock St. W., Uxbridge, ON L4P 1P4, Attn: Marjorie Mason Hogue.

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# The New York Times CROSSWORD

## BASEBALL AT THE MOVIES

BY NANCY SALOMON // EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

- |   |                                 |                                     |   |   |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>ACROSS</b>                                       | 1. Duel tool                    | 47. Baked in (nursery rhyme phrase) | 90. Pudd'nhead Wilson, writer             | 12. Parliamentary prospect                    |
| 5. Plant bristle                                    | 11. 24-hr. service              | 48. Smelly                          | 92. What's more like this in song         | 13. Kind of scholarship                       |
| 14. Barbarians                                      | 19. Big bargain                 | 49. Plant anew                      | 94. Batter's new strategy? (1984)         | 14. Lively person                             |
| 19. Big bargain                                     | 20. One of a biblical trio      | 52. Medicine cabinet item           | 97. Plug up                               | 15. Response to a jerk?                       |
| 21. Revolutionary name                              | 22. Outlying in a way           | 53. Opposite sides                  | 98. Impolite remark                       | 16. Ticket dispenser                          |
| 23. Powerful pitcher? (1975)                        | 25. Runabout                    | 56. Gymnastics coach Karolyi        | 99. 1948 Tommy Dorsey hit                 | 17. Hits the nail on the head                 |
| 26. To bury Caesar                                  | 27. Lamp my feet                | 57. Unassisted                      | 100. Supermodel Carol                     | 18. Reposes                                   |
| 28. Dull and dreary                                 | 29. Attempting to score? (1978) | 58. Ump's strange calls? (1984)     | 101. Base runner's shining moment? (1949) | 24. Walllops                                  |
| 31. The loneliest number                            | 32. Song                        | 60. it all                          | 104. Reagan Cabinet member                | 29. Film festival site                        |
| 33. Rugged ridge                                    | 34. Punch                       | 62. Swimmer's path                  | 105. Begin, with off                      | 30. Vetoed                                    |
| 35. Pageant title                                   | 36. Dig                         | 63. Lifesaver maybe                 | 106. Apollo site                          | 31. Gov't book balancers                      |
| 37. Finishes a flight                               | 39. Players                     | 65. Stews                           | 107. So                                   | 36. Plague, with 'at'                         |
| 42. Veteran slugger comes out of retirement? (1992) | 45. Any                         | 66. High pop-up? (1972)             | 108. One of the Foys                      | 37. Evita, Tony winner                        |
| 46. Anesthetic                                      | 47. She loves me                | 68. Terrific                        | 109. Tack on                              | 38. Proceed (from)                            |
|   |                                 | 69. Shoot in the foot?              | 110. Zoo showoffs                         | 40. Like the arms in exercise class, at times |
|   |                                 | 70. Chinese flower                  | 111. Brit. mil awards                     | 41. Toward the center                         |
|   |                                 | 71. Author Bates et al.             |   | 43. Gone by                                   |
|   |                                 | 72. Final word                      |   | 44. Draw pile in cards                        |
|   |                                 | 74. Not absorbed                    | <b>DOWN</b>                               | 45. Take care of                              |
|   |                                 | 75. Court plea, briefly             | 1. Co.-founded by Perot                   | 48. Invests with land in olden times          |
|   |                                 | 76. Earth covering                  | 2. Funnel-shaped flower                   | 49. Shoot down                                |
|   |                                 | 77. Soldier's lodging               | 3. Sincere                                | 50. Have wedding bells sans wedding bills     |
|   |                                 | 78. Defensive woes? (1967)          | 4. Snobbery                               | 51. Not yet completely lost                   |
|   |                                 | 85. Gunsmoke star                   | 5. Hotshot                                | 52. Whipped                                   |
|   |                                 | 86. Ocean                           | 6. Give-away emcees                       | 54. Inventor Howe                             |
|   |                                 | 87. She loves me                    | 7. Fence off                              | 55. Replay feature                            |
|   |                                 | 88. Medical prefix                  | 8. Fine mist                              | 56. Many college grads                        |
|   |                                 | 89. Like the O.G.P.U.               | 9. White lie                              | 57. Ready                                     |
|   |                                 |                                     | 10. A verb for you                        |   |
|   |                                 |                                     | 11. Grants                                |   |

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|---|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 59. Vane dir                            | 72. Lot               | 82. Some check payees             | 93. Sit-ups toughen them   |
| 61. Flynn and others                    | 73. Horner's nest     | 83. Back pain                     | 95. Decree (legal term)    |
| 63. Elopse, as years                    | 76. More stuffy       | 84. Afore                         | 96. Euphoria               |
| 64. What Believes (Doobie Brothers hit) | 77. Sauteed           | 85. Take on                       | 97. Heart-to-heart         |
| 67. Woodlands                           | 78. On the guest list | 86. Saved, with "out"             | 101. In spite of, in short |
| 68. Journalist Heywood                  | 79. Lacked purpose    | 87. Like some ancient manuscripts | 102. Baseball execs        |
| 71. Consecrate                          | 80. Exalt             | 81. Like some ancient manuscripts | 103. Article for Cervantes |

Answers are on page 20