

How to make new plants from Spider Plants

Humans are instinctively drawn to the natural world, hence our general love for keeping houseplants—bringing a little of the outdoors inside.

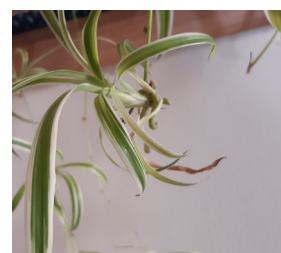
Houseplants come in a huge variety of shapes and forms, and one of the most loved is the Spider Plant. Not only will it reward even surviving a little neglect whether left in the shade, or endured an overly dry spell for too long, it is one of the simplest plants to make new plants from.

Read on, to learn how to propagate (make new) spiderettes—baby Spider Plants.



Mature plant

Step 1. A mature Spider Plant will produce trailing stems from which small clumps of leaves will dangle. Look closer and you will see a knob-like bump at the base of these leaves. This bump has the capacity to make roots to sustain the plant to grow independently of the mother plant.



Spiderette

Step 2. Use scissors to snip the spiderette from the trailing stem, just above the bump.

Try Peta Easy Grip scissors to support those with poorer hand/wrist control.

<https://peta-uk.com/shop/easi-grip-scissors>



Step 2



Step 3

Step 3. Place the spiderette bumps into jars of cold water. Leave to stand at a bright window for a couple of weeks, and fine white roots will start to develop out of the bump. Top up the water level if required.



New roots forming from bump

How to make new plants from Spider Plants *continued*



Step 4

Step 4. Once the spiderettes have started developing their roots, it's time to pot into small pots of compost.

Use a proprietary houseplant compost available in most garden centres, or make your own by mixing together 2 parts of a good quality general purpose compost with 1 part of perlite (available in garden centres) or a fine gravel—this is to ensure good drainage for the developing roots.

You will need small pots approx. 5-7cm in diameter, tray/saucer to sit the pots into, and a small watering bottle or can.



Step 5

Step 5. Half fill the pot with compost then place the roots on top of the compost.

Step 6. Holding the leaves gently out of the way, use a spoon to scoop compost in and around the neck of the spiderette until the compost is almost level with the pot.

Use your fingers to gently firm the compost into the pot, leaving a 1 cm gap to the top of the pot.



Step 6

Label the plants with name and date if appropriate.

Step 7. Place the new planted pots inside a saucer/tray, and water on top of the compost to further settle the compost. Keep the compost damp at all times, watering into the saucer from now on.

Step 8. Site on a bright windowsill, avoiding direct sunlight if possible.

Check after 2–3 weeks for fibrous white roots peeping through the drainage holes of the pot. Once the holes are full of roots, it's time to pot the baby plants into their larger 'big spider' pot.

Growing and caring for Baby Spider Plants to sell at a craft fair or garden party, makes for a great extension activity. Enjoy!



Step 7



Step 8