

# Sprouting an Avocado Pit

(AKA: how to grow the coolest houseplant)

## Gather:

- » An avocado pit (or two or three)
- » A glass jar or cup (or two or three)
- » Toothpicks
- » Lukewarm water

## Steps:

1. Wash the avocado pit, and find the top (the pointier end) and the bottom (the wider/flatter end).
2. Push three toothpicks into the pit, equally spaced around the midline.
3. Place the pit in the jar, bottom side down, with the toothpicks resting on the rim.
4. Fill the jar with lukewarm water until the bottom of the pit is submerged, replenishing as needed. About once a week, change the water completely.
5. Place the jar in a warm spot out of direct sunlight.
6. After 2 to 8 weeks, roots will emerge, followed by a stem and then leaves!
7. When the stem is about 6 or 7 inches tall, cut it back to about 3 inches to encourage stronger, bushier growth. Once the stem has again reached 6 inches tall, plant it in some soil (with the top half of the seed exposed), and let it grow!



## Be Prepared: Sometimes, seeds don't sprout.

That's normal; it happens with seeds of all kinds. To increase your chances of success, start multiple pits at once. Give each pit its own jar. If you don't see any action in two months, try again with another pit.

## Also, don't expect an avocado.

It's *possible* that after many years, with the right seed and the right conditions, an avocado will develop, but it's unlikely. And who has that long to wait anyway? In the meantime, enjoy your unique new houseplant!