

Propagating Perennials/Shrubs: Divisions and Cuttings

Here is a brief outline of the easiest and most successful ways to get free plants.

DIVISION is the simplest method and should be done every 3-4 years to keep plants vigorous. There is root ball separation (iris, hostas) and plantlet separation (strawberries, saxifrage)

General rule: for spring and summer bloomers, divide in fall; for late summer and fall bloomers, divide in spring. These plants can be divided anytime: sedum, thyme, saxifrage, hardy geranium, agapanthus.

Easiest plants to divide: heuchera, hosta, viola, primrose, oxalis, sempervivum, many grasses.

CUTTINGS (mostly softwood or new growth cuttings):

Take basal cuttings in early spring from dicentra, begonia, delphinium.

Take cuttings spring to autumn from abelia, alyssum, campanula, coreopsis, echinacea, lavatera, fuschi

Take cuttings in autumn from calluna.

Take cuttings anytime from ajuga, willow, vinca, verbena

Roses have a 40-90% strike rate. do soft and semi-soft cuttings in the spring, hardwood in late fall/winter

See more: <http://www.bhg.com/gardening/yard/garden-care/starting-flowers-from-cutting/>

--Barbara Chase