

1. The cutting should be $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ in. diameter, preferably with 4 buds. Keep cool and moist until ready to use.
2. Planting site: if feasible and in an area where “TLC” can be given, planting directly in the permanent location avoids a later move and transplant shock. This is normally not feasible and even if done, you may be “Filling in the Blanks” later, depending on the success rate of rooting. My preference is an individual pot per cutting, 6 or 8 inch (bigger still is better).
3. Planting media: a non or minimally fertilized commercial potting soil or your garden soil if decent quality. Wouldn't hurt to mix 50-50 with medium sand if potting soil used.
4. Don't plant the cutting upside down—you're not planting sweet potatoes! When taking cuttings, cut one end at an angle, other end square-consistently! If you plant the angled end down the cambium bark “sees” a bit more of the potting media (and moisture source). (Splitting hairs there.)
5. Plant the cuttings with 2 buds in the soil, use rooting hormone if desired. Firm soil around cutting. Keep moist, not wet, and in a relatively warm well lit place but avoid afternoon “South Texas Broil”. When you get a “take” and couple of developed leaves are on, start moving the pot toward more morning and mid-day sun.
6. If available, a large (clear) soda water bottle with the neck cut out capped over the cutting provides a mini-greenhouse that minimizes moisture loss. Watch that the cutting stem doesn't get wet and slimy—too much moisture, needs air! Another trick is to seal the upper end with a twist of cling-wrap or drop of wood glue or melted candle wax/ paraffin. (Wouldn't hazard a guess how many roses, etc. my grandmother rooted under a quart fruit jar!)
7. Good Luck!! JM