

How To Propagate Triple Crown Thornless Blackberries

Triple Crown Thornless Blackberries are very prolific and can be propagated a number of different ways. One common method for propagating blackberries with cuttings is the mulch medium method. Note: Rooting hormone can be used but is not necessary.

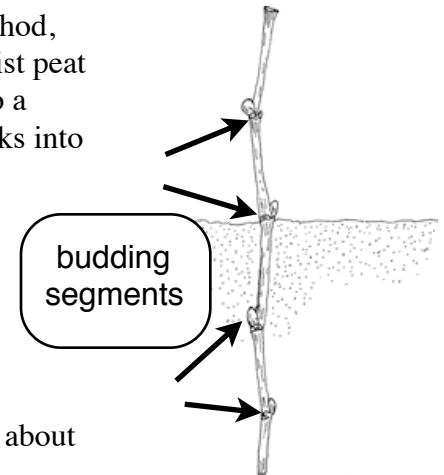
Cuttings generally are cut with the angle indicating the top and the flat cut indicating the bottom, however, blackberries will root from either end, so placing the angle end up or the flat end down is not crucial, just generally optimal.

Your cuttings have been cold stored and are ready to root upon arrival! It is best to begin the process immediately, but if you are unable to root them right away, you can make sure the packing is moist and store in a cool (35-45 F), dark location for several days or weeks. **DO NOT LET ROOT END DRY OUT.**

CAUTION: In some conditions, the blackberries will root during storage and will need to be planted soon after rooting to avoid loss. Additionally, the longer cuttings are stored, the less likely they are to be viable. If your cuttings develop rot or mold, cut the affected parts off and discard to avoid contaminating the rest of your cuttings.



MULCH MEDIUM METHOD: With this method, you would mix a bit of sand or perlite and moist peat moss into a pot, container or even directly into a furrow in a prepared garden bed. Push the sticks into the medium about 3-4" deep, try to cover at least one budding segment. Mist well and keep moist. Using plastic to cover the plant while it is rooting is ideal for moisture retention. Place in a shady location with temperatures above 45 degrees. Roots should begin to develop in 3-5 weeks. After the roots



begin to form, the plants should be potted or planted permanently within about 2 weeks or so. If you choose to pot them, use a large pot and **DO NOT TRANSPLANT** for at least 6 months. Planting directly in the permanent garden bed is the fastest route to fruit bearing. Established plants over a year old do not transplant well. Garden spacing should be 8-18" apart for cuttings, or 12-36" apart for rooted plants (they spread!).

*TIP

Scratching or nicking the skin along the lower end of the cutting where you would like to see roots form, often will stimulate root growth.

*Open pollinated: These blackberries are open pollinated, which means, they can cross pollinate with other varieties of blackberries which may, over time, lead to a change in characteristics such as thorn growth. To avoid this, do not plant near wild blackberries, raspberries or other varieties of blackberries.