Regrowing celery

Watch a fresh celery base make new leaves, with modest harvest expectations.

What you need

• A firm celery base with about 5cm of stem

• A clean shallow dish and water

• An optional pot with drainage holes and peat-free compost

Step by step

1. Cut and save the firm base of a fresh bunch. Reject any soft or mouldy pieces.

2. Stand the base upright in a dish with about 1cm of water. Keep the centre above the water.

3. Place in a bright spot and replace the water daily, cleaning the dish regularly.

4. If roots grow, plant in moist compost with the growing centre above the surface. Keep moist but not waterlogged.

5. Snip a few new leaves for cooking once established. Start another project if the base rots or stops growing.

Make this project work for you

How long it takes

Tiny central leaves often appear within 1 week. Allow 3 to 6 weeks for a small amount of leaf growth; roots are not guaranteed.

What you can realistically expect

Expect leaves and a few thin stems, not a full supermarket bunch. Growing celery from seed or young plants is better for a substantial crop.

Safety and hygiene

Discard any foul-smelling or mouldy base. Celery is a recognised food allergen; avoid handling or eating it if it causes a reaction. Wash leaves before eating.

A different way to do it

Use a stable dish on a tray at a comfortable height. Water changes and potting can be done together with someone helping.

Gardening is for everyone

You don’t need a big garden, expensive equipment or years of experience. Whether you can spend hours gardening or just a few minutes a week, there’s something you can grow. Whether you do everything yourself or have someone help you, you’re a gardener. You’re welcome here.

General UK guidance. Results vary with light, temperature, variety and care. Start small and ask for help whenever it suits you.

Questions? Growsmartuk@gmail.com