# Your Home Hydroponics Pruning Guide

## Maximize plant health and production by pruning!

#### What to prune?

- Herbs
- Fruiting/flowering Plants

#### Why prune?

- Pruning allows for greater production by redirecting energy from extra growth back to the plant.
- It also allows for more air flow, keeping plants healthy and happy.
- This is especially effective for fruiting and flowering plants that need energy directed to their fruits/flowers, and that will be in the system longer and grow larger, therefore requiring extra air flow.

## ⅓ Rule of pruning:

When pruning, never remove more than ½
 of the plant at a time!

Read on to learn how to prune by plant type!

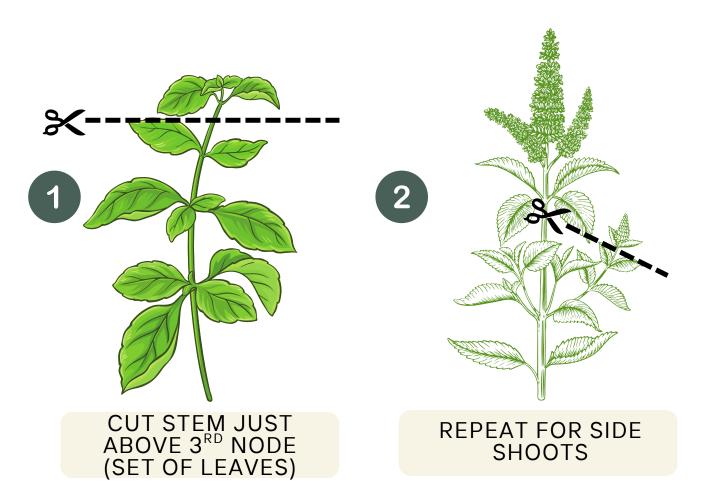




# Pruning

# Basil

- 1. Cut the main stem just above the 3<sup>rd</sup> node (3<sup>rd</sup> set of leaves)
- 2. Repeat for all new shoots, cutting above the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> node (set of leaves)







# Pruning

## Tomatoes

- 1. Identify the lowest flower or fruit cluster on the main stem
- 2. By pinching them off or using a clean shears, remove all suckers (side shoots) from the plant EXCEPT for the sucker just below the lowest flower/fruit cluster
- 3. Remove lower/dead leaves as plant grows larger

For best results, prune regularly





ID LOWEST FRUIT/FLOWER CLUSTER



REMOVE SUCKERS EXCEPT FOR THE SUCKER JUST BELOW THE LOWEST FLOWER/FRUIT CLUSTER



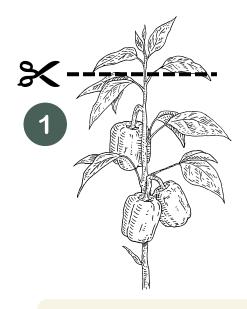


## Pruning

# Peppers

- 1. Cut the stem's main tip when the plant is ~10 inches tall, or just above the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> set of true leaves
- 2. Remove side shoots (suckers) as they appear by pinching them off or with clean shears
- 3. Remove lower leaves as the plant grows larger

For best results, prune regularly







**REMOVE SUCKERS** 



