



How to graft Plumeria step by step

Step 1 Check that you have everything

- Sydney Frangipani custom made grafting board
- Sydney Frangipani Gardening Antiseptic Spray
- Grafting tape
- Zip ties (cable ties)
- Host plumeria plant (rootstock)
- Scion (fresh cutting) of the same diameter
- Sharp carving knife
- Side cutter pliers
- Paper towel
- Suitable area to graft



Grafting board



Antiseptic Spray



Grafting tape



Zip ties



Rootstock



Scion
(Same size)



Sharp knife



Side cutter
pliers



Paper towel



Id tags





How to graft Plumeria (continued)

Step 2 Remove the leaves and visualise where you are going to cut and join both parts together

Cut all of the leaves from the scion and the rootstock at this point. Hold up the cutting (scion) against the plant to be grafted (rootstock) see picture below to determine where the thickness of both is **exactly the same** so you know where to cut.



Visualise where you will make your cuts on both

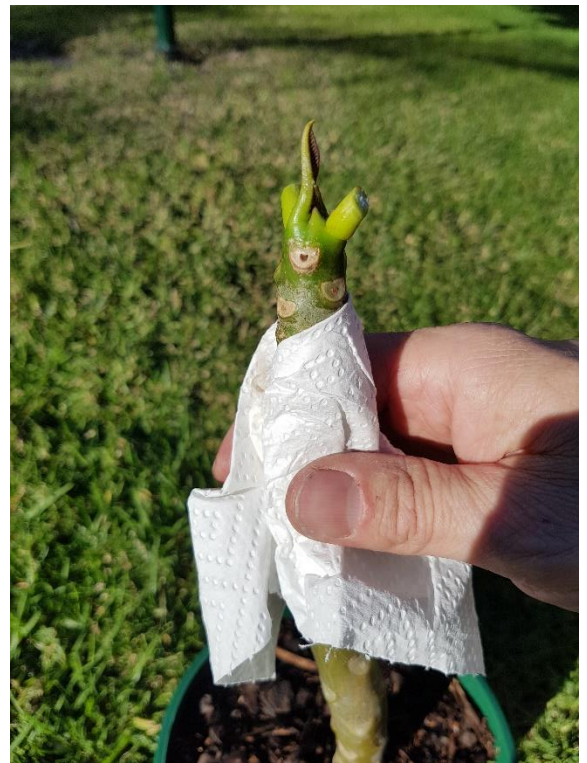




How to graft Plumeria (continued)

Step 3 Cleaning the Rootstock

Clean the **rootstock** (plant to be grafted) by spraying the stem with the Sydney Frangipani Garden Antiseptic spray all the way around and wipe dry with some paper towel. (don't forget to check out how much dirt is on the paper towel!) Always **Repeat process** until no more dirt is evident on the paper towel. This step is critical to success as many grafts rot due to bacterial infection.



Spray to kill bacteria and prevent infection Thorough cleaning is critical to success





How to graft Plumeria (continued)

Step 4 Cleaning the Scion

Clean the **Scion** (cutting to be grafted) by spraying the cutting with the Antiseptic spray all the way around and wipe dry with some paper towel. (don't forget to check out how much dirt is on the paper towel!) Repeat process until no more dirt is evident on the paper towel. This step is critical to success as many grafts rot due to bacterial infection. Once your scion is clean, lay it down on a clean piece of paper towel.



Cleanliness helps greatly at this stage



Dirt removed after cleaning twice





How to graft Plumeria (continued)

Step 5 Clean/sterilise your knife

Spray both sides of the knife blade well with Sydney Frangipani gardening antiseptic spray & wipe dry with paper towel. **Always wipe in a direction away from yourself and only wipe from the NON-CUTTING edge side of the knife. Please take your time and exercise extreme care not to cut yourself.**



Step 5 Cleaning is critical to success





How to graft Plumeria (continued)

Step 6 Making your cuts

Place your grafting board behind the branch you want to cut **Step 6 picture (A)** and using a “**Carving motion**” cut the piece off the rootstock (plant) on a long narrow angle or slant **Step 6 picture (B)**. It is very important to **carve** the piece and **not to chop** the piece as the cambium layer is compressed when chopped and this misalignment can cause the pieces not to fuse/join.



Step 6 picture (A)



Step 6 picture (B)





How to graft Plumeria (continued)

Step 7 Re-cut the rootstock after a few minutes to reduce sap flow

Re-cut the rootstock on the same narrow angle approximately 4-5mm further down using the “Carving motion” to remove a thin disc. This technique greatly reduces the sap flow and the removed disc can be used to measure the proposed scion cut.



Step 7 picture





How to graft Plumeria (continued)

Step 8 Cutting the Scion to the same angle

Lay your thin disc on your grafting board and use this to measure how long you need to make your cut on the **scion** (cutting)



Step 8 picture – use the disc to gauge the length of the proposed cut to the scion





How to graft Plumeria (continued)

Step 9 Using the thin disc as a measurement tool

Using the carving motion, cut the same angle on the base of the scion to match the thin disc previously cut from the rootstock. **Lay the cut scion next to the thin disc piece cut from the rootstock to measure the length of the scion cut.** If the length of the cut and the angle doesn't match the rootstock then either the rootstock or the scion can be recut to match the other one.



Step 9 picture - Thin disc and the scion cut should match perfectly





How to graft Plumeria (continued)

Step 10 Attaching the scion to the rootstock

Using a zip tie provided in kit, It is **VERY IMPORTANT** to secure the graft lower than the correct position and tighten **See Step 10 picture (A)** Add two more zip ties above & below the first one to secure & tighten. **The grafted piece (scion) should still be in the wrong/lower position at this stage.** See **Step 10 picture (B).**



Step 10 picture (A)



Step 10 picture (B)





How to graft Plumeria (continued)

Step 11 Adjusting the graft to the correct position

To adjust the scion to the correct position so there is a perfect match, wiggle the scion just a little bit and tighten the zip ties as you go. **This will cause the scion to slide upwards.** Repeat this process until you achieve a perfect meeting of the cambium layers see **Step 11 picture (B)**. Wipe away any sap that has been squeezed out during the tightening and adjustment process with paper towel that has been sprayed with Sydney Frangipani Gardening Antiseptic spray. Add a further zip tie if required. See **Step 11 picture (B)**



Step 11 picture (A)



Step 11 picture (B)





How to graft Plumeria (continued)

Step 12 Cutting the zip ties short and disinfect

Cut the zip ties short with side cutter pliers as per the **Step 12 picture (A)** below. Lightly spray the entire area all the way around with Sydney Frangipani Gardening Antiseptic spray all the way around to kill any introduced bacteria during grafting and allow to dry for 15 minutes. See **Step 12 picture (B)**



Step 12 picture (A)



Step 12 picture (B)





How to graft Plumeria (continued)

Step 13 Wrapping the graft with tape

Using the grafting tape provided in the kit, start wrapping the graft **nice and tight** to keep the graft from becoming infected and to help support the zip ties from any possible movement. The tape roll will **squeak** when its wrapped tightly so keep listening for this as an indicator. When you are happy with the amount of wrapping applied start to wrap downwards and finish by leaving a tag of tape at the base of the graft so that it can be found easily when its time to unwrap. See **Step 13 picture (C)**.



Step 13 picture (A)



Step 13 picture (B)



Step 13 picture (C)





How to graft Plumeria (continued)

Step 14 Labelling and allowing the graft to heal

Now it's time to label your graft so using a marker pen and something to write on, label the tag with the scion cultivar and the date it was grafted. Now move your plumeria to an area free from rain and in the shade so the graft doesn't sweat under the tape. It's very important to keep the graft area dry until it has healed.

IMPORTANT - always keep graft dry until healed.



Step 14 picture





How to graft Plumeria (continued)

Step 15 Removing the tape and zip ties

Once new growth has been observed from the graft, usually after about two weeks the tape can be removed. This is simply just unwinding it all off. Once all the tape has been removed, **spray the entire area with Sydney Frangipani Gardening Antiseptic spray all the way around to kill any residual bacteria.**

After a further week or two the zip ties can be removed by gently cutting through them with side cutter pliers. Special care needs to be taken not to scratch the plumeria at this point. **If a scratch occurs simply spray with Sydney Frangipani Gardening Antiseptic spray.**

INSERT HAPPY DANCE HERE :) CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR GRAFT

Appendix

Green Growth	Term for recent fresh growth. Usually these branches/tips are green
Rootstock	Term used for the host plant or plant which has the roots
Scion	Term used for the small piece of plant material which is attached/grafted to the Rootstock
Cambium layer	Outer layer of Plumeria which carries all of the food to the upper branches



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