

#### INFO GUIDE #11

### How to Trim Cannabis to Perfection in 7 Easy Steps

It's true - trimming cannabis is one of the most monotonous jobs in the garden. But much the like process of knitting handmade fabrics, hand-trimming your crop is a special and necessary part of cultivation. Trimming is one of the last actions to complete before your home-grown cannabis is ready to be enjoyed. So, this process must be accomplished with care and diligence.

#### Why Trim Cannabis?

There are several reasons growers trim cannabis flowers. First, properly trimmed cannabis can exaggerate the look and appeal"top-shelf" flower. Also, trimmed flowers container higher percentages of THC and are less likely to develop a "hay-like" aroma after being stored. It doesn't matter if your sugar leaves are coated in trichomes - gram-for-gram, cannabis flowers will always have a higher concentration of cannabinoids.



#### **Trimming Cannabis Step-by-Step**

### **Step #1:** Purchase Trimming Equipment

Before you begin the trim, purchase the following equipment:

**Scissors** - The sharper and more precise the blade, the better. Stay away from kitchen or fabric scissors bought from department stores - for the best cut, consider purchasing bonsai or pruning shears from your local garden store.

**Trays -** Trays will act as your personal table when trimming. Baking sheets, plant trays, or specialty containers like the Trim Bin will help contain the mess and fight f atigue when trimming.

**Isopropyl alcohol -** Iso is a great sterilant to keep handy when trimming. Clean your trimming station and scissors periodically throughout the process to avoid contaminants and resin build-up. **Disposable Gloves -** Ripe cannabis is naturally sticky; so, be prepared to go through a lot of gloves while trimming. For the best results, purchase powder-free, nitrile gloves that fit your palm size. Sizing charts are available on the back of disposable gloves containers.

### 🔆 Step #2: Get Comfy

Trimming cannabis is a boring job. So, be sure to keep yourself awake, occupied, and motivated during the entire process. Invite your friends over to help with the workload, put on some music or a movie, and take lots of breaks. But most importantly, get comfortable.

## Step #3: Cut Branches into Sections

Begin by cutting your plant into sections of stalks or branches. This is done because it is much easier to manage individual branches instead of the whole plant. You may want to work on a single branch at a time (see step #3) as to not overwhelm your trimming station.









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Large fan leaves are of no use to the plant anymore. So, before you begin to trim your flowers, start by removing the large fan leaves of your plant. Some fan leaves are brittle enough that they can be removed with your fingers; however, be careful not to break or damage any buds if you plan on removing fan leaves by hand.



#### Step #5: Remove Flowers from the Stalk

In order to achieve a 360 degree trim, flowers must first be removed from the stalk. Begin by locating the flowers you would like to trim along the stalk of your plant. Then, cut the node that connects the base of the flower to the plant.



REMOVE CANNABIS FLOWERS FROM THE STALK





# Sugar Leaves

Carefully remove the sugar leaves by getting as close to the flower with your scissors as possible, creating a smooth, evenly trimmed surface of pure flower. Rotate the bud in your hand and continue to trim off any leaves that stick out of your flower.

1 TRIM AND REMOVE SUGAR LEAVES





### Step #7: Inspect the Quality of Your Cannabis Flowers

Examine your flowers for possible contaminants like molds, mildews, pests, and seeds. This is perhaps the most important aspect of trimming your crop by hand - growers have the best chance of spotting and stopping crop-damaging contaminants from spreading during the drying and curing process.

