1. Rinse your avocado seed.
2. Suspend the seed (broad end down) over a water-filled glass using three toothpicks. The water should cover about an inch of the seed.
3. Place the glass in a warm location, out of direct sunlight, and replenish water as needed. A mature seed will crack as roots and stem sprout in about two to six weeks.
4. When the stem grows to 6 or 7 inches, cut it back to about 3 inches.
5. When the roots are thick and the stem has leaves again, plant it in a rich humus soil in a 10.5-inch-diameter pot, leaving the seed half exposed.
6. When the stem grows to 12 inches, cut it back to 6 inches to encourage it to branch out.
7. Water it frequently with an occasional deep soak, allowing it to dry out somewhat between waterings.

Avocado trees, in general, require grafting to produce fruit, and it is rare for avocado houseplants grown from seeds to bear fruit within the first 10 years. To ensure your tree eventually produces avocados, we recommend purchasing a tree from a nursery.

Visit CaliforniaAvocado.com for general avocado information, fun facts, recipe ideas and nutrition information.

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