BURNCOOSE NURSERIES PART OF THE CAERHAYS ESTATE

Trees - Care Guide

How To Plant A Tree - Video Tip

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How To Plant A Tree



1. Dig out a circular hole which is at least twice the size and depth of the rootball or potful of roots which you are planting. Always loosen the soil at the base of the pit to encourage root growth. If planting in a grassy area as opposed to a weed free border always clear turf & weeds well away.



2.For best results and especially when planting trees add some peat, leaf mould, compost or well rotted manure to the base of the pit and to the soil which will go back into the planting hole. Add a small handful of fertiliser (e.g. Vitax Q4) or Blood Fish and Bone to the planting pit.



3. Gently ease the tree or plant out of its container or rootball wrapper taking great care not to break the rootball. If the is especially pot-bound and the roots are densely intertwined gently tease some of them from the edges so that they can gain purchase on the surrounding soil and grow away properly.



4. Lower the tree or shrub into the planting position. **It is crucial that the plant is planted no more deeply than it was in its pot or previously in the ground. The soil level in the pot must match the soil level in the ground.**



5. Back fill ensuring the soil level is not higher than before. Use a cane to ensure correct level.



6. If rabbits are likely to be a problem the best rabbit protection is a wire netting surround which is at least 2 or 2 foot 6 inches tall.



7.A spiral tree guard may suffice where trees have straight stems and are not prone to rabbit damage (NOT SUITABLE FOR MAGNOLIAS). It is best to remove the guards after three years, otherwise ants, slugs and worms can build up soil inside the spiral which again can cause grafts to rot or fail.



8 If smaller roe or munjac deer are a problem then you need a special deer guard which will require a custom made clear stake and ties. These sorts of tree guard are often used in conjunction with a mulch mat to inhibit week growth around the plant.

9. Staking can be carried out in different ways in different locations according to the size of the plant.

The windier and more exposed the location the more essential it is to stake properly. Stakes should always be inserted on the side of the plant facing the prevailing wind so that the plant pulls away from the stake in gales rather than rubbing against it.

All stakes and ties should be checked at least once a year so the expandable plastic ties can be loosened or removed altogether as the trunk of the tree grows and expands. Sometimes the expandable plastic ties move on the plant and cause the tree to rub against the stake. This can cause long term damage and again needs regular checking.



9. Large trees need substantial staking as shown below. This may well be a job for an expert or landscaper.



Trees of six feet or more in size do need a firm stake and one or two expandable plastic ties until their root system can get established.

10. Mulching around your new tree is probably a good idea in formal planting schemes because it will inhibit weed growth but is not always essential in a woodland setting. Careful spraying with weedkiller around the base of a tree in April or May can achieve the same effect which is to ensure that in dry periods rainfall gets down to the roots of the tree rather than being absorbed by grass and surrounding vegetation. Never use coniferous bark mulch for this purpose as it can be toxic to ericaceous plants and again never cover the graft with bark mulch as this is just as likely to kill the plant as covering it with soil.

11. Plants and trees which have leaves which are attractive to slugs and snails (eg especially Magnolias) should be protected in late Spring (April/May) as the new growth first emerges.

12. Always prune out any growth which appears from below the graft on the rootstock. If the rootstock grabs the energy from the grafted part of the plant it will become starved and die.

13. In periods of drought or dry weather in the first 2 or 3 years after planting takes place, watering two or more times a week will be helpful to avoid casualties on stunted new growth. Once watering commences it should carry on until the weather changes.

14. A dose of granular fertiliser at the start of each subsequent growing season in March or April will encourage the plant to grow more robustly.

15. The commonest ways of killing newly planted trees and shrubs are:-

a) Breaking the rootball during planting

b) Planting too deeply

c) Covering the graft in soil

d) Leaving the plant exposed to deer or rabbits

e) Inadequate watering in dry spells - especially where weed growth is not controlled

f) Poor and inadequate staking combined with a lack of heeling in after major storms.

Checking Ties

View this video on Youtube here https://www.youtube.com/I18ZoGxF5UE?rel=0

Tie Damage

Removing ties & stakes

Restaking Fallen Young Trees - Video Tip

View this video on Youtube here https://www.youtube.com/9nlG2QufJF0?rel=0

Fallen Old Tree - Video Tip

View this video on Youtube here https://www.youtube.com/HJv7itPVQYM

Clearing Up Fallen Beech Tree - Video Tip

View this video on Youtube here https://www.youtube.com/1Kmxjqdqbyo

Spring Pruning - Video Tip

View this video on Youtube here https://www.youtube.com/1tLLlRs8Zys?rel=0

Removing Side Shoots - Video Tip

View this video on Youtube here https://www.youtube.com/N6nlnlcJ1dw?rel=0

Pruning And Shaping Magnolia - Video Tip

View this video on Youtube here https://www.youtube.com/0aVqGwQB2-A

Deer Protection - Video Tip

View this video on Youtube here https://www.youtube.com/832b4C63ujw?rel=0

Weed Spraying - Video Tip

Short version

View this video on Youtube here https://www.youtube.com/ALSjMKiAxFE?rel=0

Longer version with before and after footage

Removing Ivy - Video Tip

View this video on Youtube here https://www.youtube.com/0Ea77BQ-_l8

Removing Wire Protection - Video Tip

View this video on Youtube here https://www.youtube.com/xtKcM3QHV3o

Tree Survey - Video Tip

View this video on Youtube here https://www.youtube.com/jP03qO3ZHTQ?rel=0

Crown Uplift - Video Tip

View this video on Youtube here https://www.youtube.com/Zn9K0Fy6Q9E

Removing Shoots Below Graft - Video Tip

View this video on Youtube here https://www.youtube.com/XGYNkALk7Ms

Removing Peeling Bark - Video Tip

View this video on Youtube here https://www.youtube.com/FC-sDXW5eTM

Maintaining Variegation - Video Tip

View this video on Youtube here https://www.youtube.com/94EABHh11Ko

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