

Plant Establishment

Class Outline

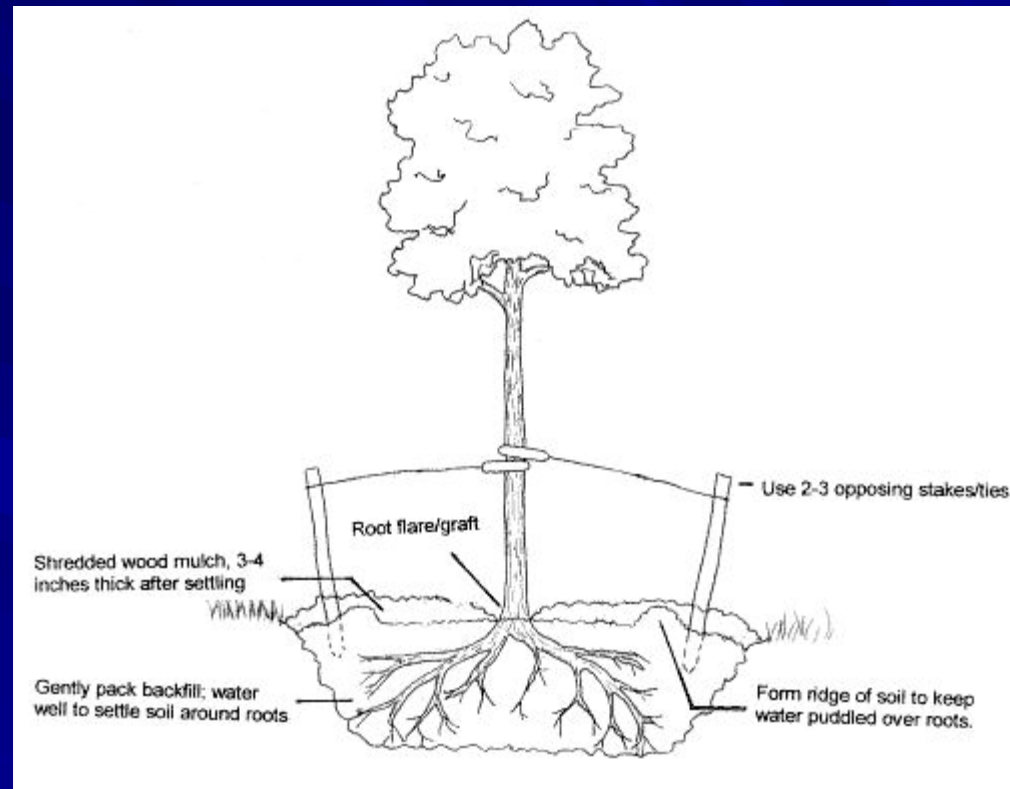
- Planting Sequence
- Preparation
 - Preparation of ground
 - Preparation of plants
- Setting-out & Planting times
- Planting
 - Trees
 - Bare-Root Plants
 - Balled & Burlapped Plants (B&B)
- Staking & Guying
- Watering

Preparation

- Preparation of Ground
 - Clear site
 - Till ground
 - Import and mix topsoil
- Preparation of Plants
 - Import Plants
 - Condition Plants
 - Prune branches
 - Repotting container plants
- Setting-out & Planting Time
 - Mark positions
 - Curving hedges
 - Jeddah Planting Season?

Planting Sequence

- Clear ground
- Weed
- Set out
- Dig tree pits
- Water pits
- Spread top soil halfway
- Plant on & in backfill
- Tamp
- Water
- Stack trees
- Backfill to top
- Water thoroughly
- Prune
- Fertilize
- Mulch
- Train plant



Planting Balled and Burlapped (B & B) Trees

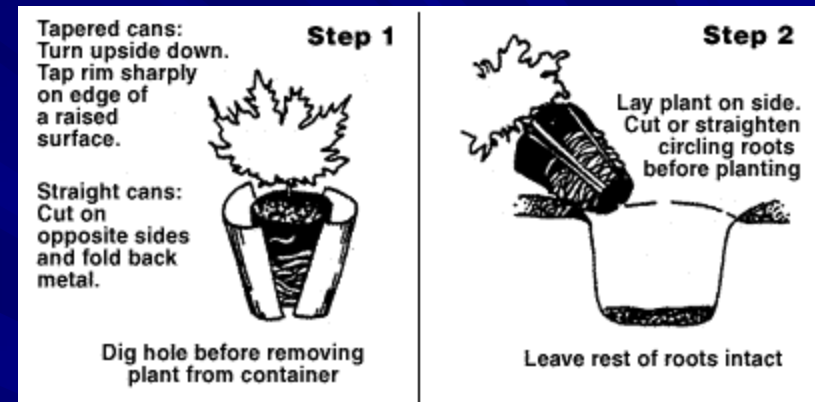
- (B & B) trees can be stored for some time after purchase as long as the **ball is kept moist and the tree stored in a shady area.**
- *B & B trees should always be lifted by the ball, never by the trunk.*
- The burlap surrounding the ball of earth and roots should either be cut away completely (**mandatory, in the case of synthetic or plastic burlap**) or at least pulled back from the top third of the ball (in the case of natural burlap).
- Any string or twine should also be removed.



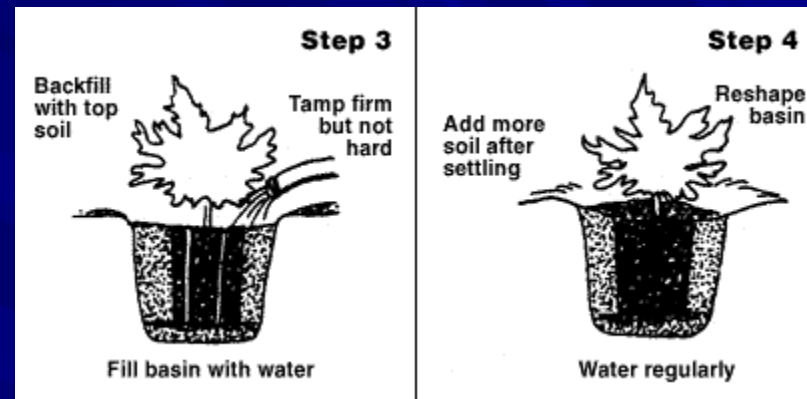
- Backfill soil (combinations of peat moss, composted manure, topsoil, etc.) is then placed in the hole surrounding the tree just to the height of the ball or slightly higher to allow for some settling.
- Be careful not to compress the back fill soil as this may prevent water from reaching the roots and the roots from expanding beyond the ball.

Planting Container Trees

- Container trees can be stored for a brief period of time after purchase as long as the soil in the container is kept moist and the tree stored in a shady spot.
- The procedure is similar to that for B & B trees. In the case of metal or plastic containers, remove the container completely. In the case of fibre containers, tear the sides away.



- Once carefully removed from the container, check the roots.
- Once the tree is seated in the hole, the backfill soil is then filled into the hole to the soil level of the container. Again, remember not to overly compress the back-filled soil especially by tramping it with your feet. Compress gently using your hands instead.



If they are tightly compressed or 'potbound', use your fingers to carefully loosen fine roots from the tight mass and then spread the roots prior to planting.

In the case of extremely woody compacted roots, use a spade to open up the bottom half of the root system.

The root system is then pulled apart or 'butterflied' prior to planting.

Loosening the root structure is extremely important in the case of container plants. Failure to do so may result in the roots killing the tree. At the very least.



Planting Bare-Rooted Trees

- With bare-rooted trees there is no soil surrounding the roots.
- The time between purchase and planting is critical. **Plant as soon as possible.**
- When purchasing bare-rooted trees,
 - Inspect the roots to ensure that they are moist and have numerous lengths of fine root hairs (healthy).
 - Make sure roots are kept moist in the period between purchase and planting.
 - Prune broken or damaged roots but save as much of the root structure as you can.

- To plant, first build a cone of earth in the centre of the tree well
- Splay the roots on top of the cone.
- Make sure that when properly seated on this cone the tree is planted so that the 'trunk flare' is clearly visible and the **'crown', where the roots and top meet, is about two inches above the soil level.** This is to allow for natural settling.

