
TEXAS TREES FOUNDATION TREE PLANTING GUIDE



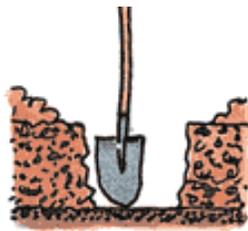
Congratulations on your new tree! This tree planting guide will teach you how to properly plant, maintain and care for your new tree.

Step 1: Clear

Pick where you want to plant your tree and clear the space of any objects or debris that will get in the way. You only get one chance at planting your tree so make sure the area you pick has the light, water, and soil your tree will need to thrive. Remember that your tree will grow, so pick a spot that will give your tree plenty of room.

Step 2: Dig

Once you have picked and cleared a spot for your tree, it is time to dig a hole. The hole should be roughly twice the diameter of the container your tree comes in. One of the most important parts of planting your tree is making sure you do not plant it too deep. The hole should be just deep enough so your tree's root flare, where the trunk ends and roots start, pokes out of the top by an inch or two. If you plant it too deep you will smother the bottom of the trunk, making your tree suffer and possibly die.



Step 3: Remove

When your hole is ready, remove your tree from its container. To do this, move your tree close to the hole, lean the tree over on its side, and firmly hit the side of the container to loosen the soil and roots from the container. Once the root ball is loose, grab the trunk of the tree near the base where it meets the soil, and slide it out of the container.

Step 4: Inspect

Once you have your tree out of the container, it is very important to inspect the root ball and break up any circling or girdling roots. Using the shovel you used to dig the hole, stab the root ball all the way around to break up the roots and loosen the soil.

**SCAN THE QR CODE
TO WATCH A VIDEO
OF THE PLANTING
PROCESS IN ACTION**



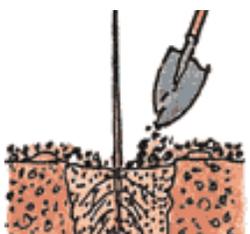
Step 5: Plant

After breaking up the root ball, roll or place your tree into the hole. Again, remember that the trunk's root flare should be sitting an inch or two above the hole. If some soil got lost while breaking up the root ball, add some dirt back into the hole until your tree sits at that perfect level above the hole. Try to get the tree as centered and straight in the hole as possible.



Step 6: Backfill

Once your tree is sitting an inch or two above the hole and it is centered and straight, it is time to fill the hole back up. Use the soil you dug out to make the hole before using any loose soil from the container that the tree was in. Using the native soil to plant the tree helps it adjust to its new environment. As you shovel dirt back into the hole, occasionally step on it with your foot to pack the dirt in around the tree



Step 7: Ring

Once the tree is nice and snug in the ground, using any left-over soil from the hole or container, build a ring of raised soil around the tree, like a donut, roughly the same diameter as the hole you dug. This will collect water for the tree to help it grow until it is established. DO NOT pile soil up around the trunk of the tree. This will harm and possibly kill your tree.

Step 8: Mulch

In a similar fashion as the first ring, spread mulch around the tree. Keep the mulch thinner around the trunk of the tree and thicker on the ring you made with the dirt. Mulch helps retain water in the soil during the hotter months, while keeping the soil warmer during the cooler months. DO NOT pile mulch up around the trunk of the tree, this will harm and possibly kill your tree.

Step 9: Water

After mulching your tree, using a garden hose or bucket, water your new tree. You want to water your tree until the ground is completely saturated and will not hold any more. After planting day, water every other day for the first two weeks, then twice a week for 1-3 months. Trees should be watered once a week from months 3-12 or until they are fully established. Once the tree is established, it will be able to find water in the soil and live off naturally available water.



Step 10: Enjoy

Kick back and enjoy your new tree for many years to come!

SHOW US YOUR NEW TREE
USE #TREEPLANTER & TAG US

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