



Live Tree Care

Now that you have decided to purchase a live tree, you will want to know how to properly care for it.

1) Storing/Holding The Tree

We suggest that you plant your tree as soon as possible.

If you must wait to plant it, you will need to follow the following steps:

- 1) Place the tree in a cool semi-shaded area
- 2) Keep the rootball moist. Use icecubes and place on top of the rootball. Allow it to melt down through or water for 1 min. at least 2-3 times per week.

Please note: DO NOT PLACE IN STANDING WATER.

- 3) If the limbs are tied up with twine, you will want to cut the twine off and let the limbs down to avoid rope burn.

2) Preparing The Hole

When digging the hole for the tree you will need to make it a bit larger and deeper than the diameter of the rootball. We suggest a minimum of 4-5" wider and 6-7" deeper. Prepare a special mixture with 2/3 existing soil, 1/3 peat moss and/or good top soil or potting soil.

3) Planting the Tree

Fill the hole with 6-7" of your soil mixture. Tamp firmly.

Place the tree in the hole.

NOTE: DO NOT REMOVE THE WIRE BASKET OR BURLAP FROM THE ROOTBALL.

You will want the top of the rootball even with the existing ground level unless the planting area often lays moist. You will then elevate 1-2 above ground level.

After placing the tree in the hole, you will now cut and remove the 2 ply rope that is at the top of the rootball helping to hold the wire basket. Untie the burlap from the base of the tree and place the corners down by the side of the rootball, exposing the top of the rootball.

Fold the "arms" of the wire basket back to the side. Now you may begin to fill the hole with the remaining soil mixture using a thin layer of soil to cover the top of the rootball.

Apply 2"-4" of mulch around the base of the tree to help retain moisture and prevent weed growth.





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4) Watering The Tree

Water your tree immediately after planting.

You will want to water your tree at least 2 times per week for the first growing season.

The best way to water is to use a garden hose and place the end of the hose in the mid portion of the tree and allow the water to turn down the inside of the tree creating a trickle irrigation effect.

Please be careful not to overwater when planting in heavy clay soil, shade or when heavily mulched.

5) Fertilizing

After planting the tree, you will want to fertilize it 2 times per year to help stimulate growth and good color.

An early Spring and mid-Fall fertilizing would be suggested.

Use of 10-20-20 fertilizer at 4-6 oz. per tree is best.

Spread the fertilizer about 1-2 foot from the base of the tree to prevent root burn and stimulate the roots to "reach" outward.

NOTE: PLACING FERTILIZER IN THE BOTTOM OF THE HOLE BEFORE PLANTING IS NOT SUGGESTED



"Time spent amongst trees is never time wasted."

~Katrina Mayer



"The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second best time is now."

~Chinese Proverb