



Tree Planting & Care Guide

Planting a tree is easy!

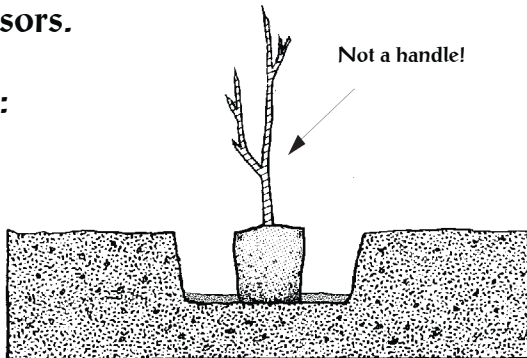
Remember to carry the tree by the container or root ball, never the trunk to avoid damage to the rootball! We recommend the following procedure to ensure suc-

1:



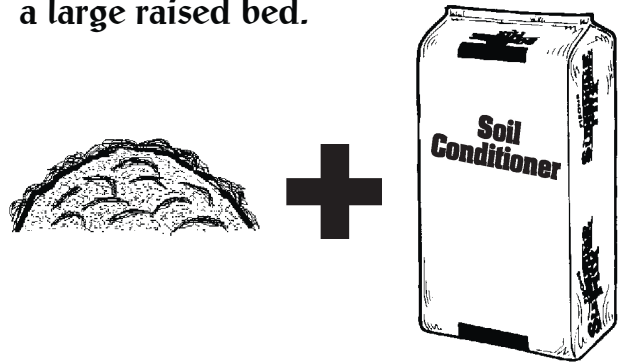
2: Mix with 2/3 soil from the hole, with 1/3 soil conditioner. Gently tap the container and slide out the root ball, being careful not to break up the root system. If the root will not come out easily, cut the pot with a knife or scissors.

3:

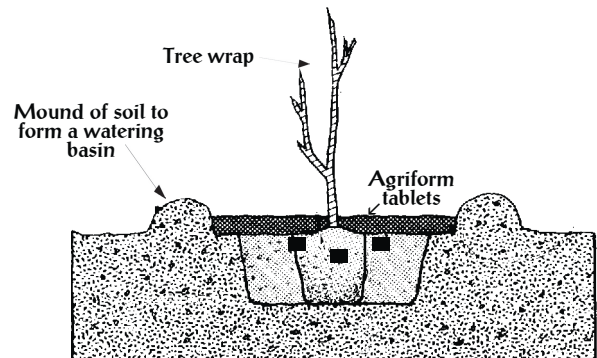


4: Fill in around the sides with the mixture, firm the soil as you fill. Build a 4 inch tall berm around the edge for efficient watering. Push in with your thumb, 3-5 Agriform tablets around the perimeter of the root ball. Water the tree thoroughly. Adding root stimulator afterwards will aid in root hair development.

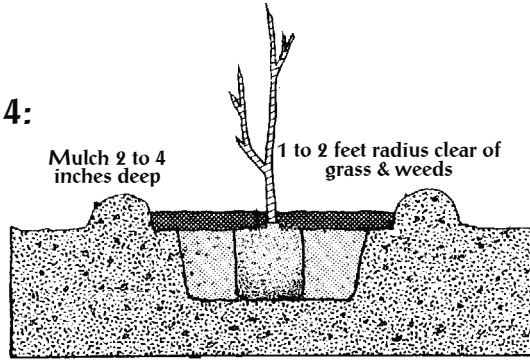
Dig the hole at least twice as wide as the root ball (container) and no deeper than the height of the root ball. Put the good soil in a wheelbarrow or on top of a piece of plastic adjacent to the hole. Throw away the caliche and rock. If a lot of rock is encountered consider building a large raised bed.



Carefully set the tree in the hole, holding on to the root ball. Make sure trunk is perpendicular to ground. Top of root ball should be 1/4" below ground level.

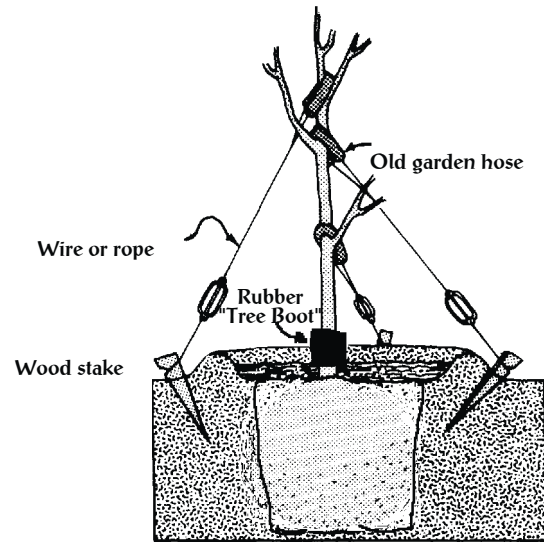


4:



Fill the berm with 4 inches of left over soil conditioner or bark mulch to conserve water and eliminate weed/grass competition. Do not pile mulch adjacent to trunk.

5: Prevent weed eater damage around the base of the tree by keeping grass cleared away from the trunk or by using a rubber "tree boot". Staking for 6-12 months will prevent tree roots from breaking off during high winds. Stake kits are available or you can make your own. In very hot locations, wrapping the trunk with "tree wrap" will prevent scalding and killing of the cambium layer on the South side of the trunk. The tree does not need to be fertilized the first year if Agriform tablets are used. Fertilize spring and fall with tree stakes each subsequent year.



6: The secret to watering is to water *thoroughly* each time. Bring a hose over to the berm and let it trickle soak very slowly for 30 minutes. The idea is to deep water, encouraging roots to grow deeper. Do not water again until the root ball is fairly dry. It is better to slightly underwater than to overwater. Start off with two deep soakings a week when the weather is warm or hot. Increase the number of days between deep soakings as the tree becomes rooted in. The advantage to fall planting is that very little supplemental watering is needed during the fall, winter, and early spring. The tree will be well rooted by summer heat time.



Rainbow Gardens #1
2585 Thousand Oaks 494-6131
Open Mon-Sat 9 to 6, Sun 10 to 6

Rainbow Gardens #3
8516 Bandera Rd 680-2394
Open Mon-Sat 9 to 6, Sun 10 to 6

10 Acres of Gardening Heaven!

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