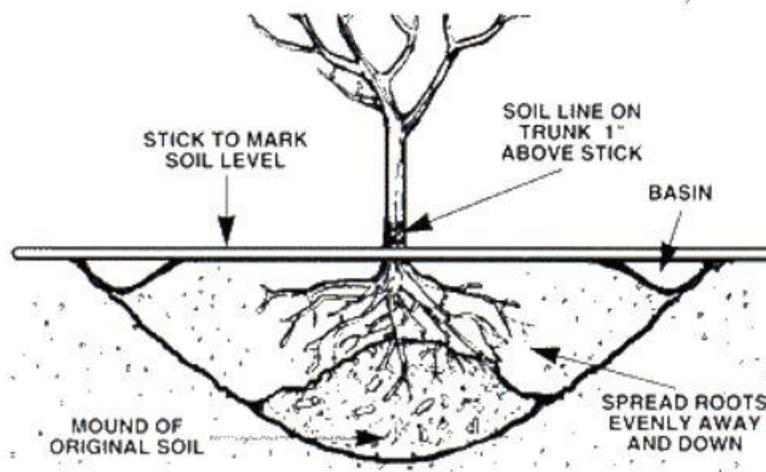


Planting Instructions

- Both bare root and container trees should be planted as soon as possible. If you are unable to plant your tree right away, keep it in a cool shady place, give it water, and plant as soon as possible – it will be fine for a day or two, but **do NOT let the roots dry out**.
 - Locate your tree **away from utilities**, septic systems and buildings.
 - Remove the grass from an area, preferably a square, about 3 feet across. **Dig a square saucer-shaped hole**, sloping inwards to about as deep as the root mass and about twice as wide. Make a **loose mound of soil** (a few shovels full) in the centre. **Rough up the exposed soil** to encourage root penetration. Using a square hole will encourage the roots to expand beyond the hole as well.
 - **Cut off any broken twigs** or root ends. Do not cut or remove the central leader.
1. **Remove the plastic bag or container**. If your container tree is root-bound, cut an X in the base of the root ball and four vertical slices along the sides, using a sharp knife.
- Place the tree on the mound of soil in the hole. For a bare-root tree, **spread the roots** so that the tree sits on the mound and the roots spread freely, away and down from the base of your tree.



- **Wet the roots and dust with the small plastic bag of Myke provided** (Mycorrhizae root stimulant).
- The tree will drop by a couple of inches when the earth compacts, so **plant the tree** so that the topmost root will meet the trunk slightly **above the surrounding soil**.

- **Anchor the tree** by placing about six inches of soil around the roots. Adding compost to the soil is no longer recommended, since it encourages the roots to stay in the original planting hole.
- **Soak the soil** thoroughly until the mud is the consistency of stew and flows around the roots, and jiggle the tree up and down to remove air pockets. Check that the trunk is vertical.
- Spread another few inches of soil, wet thoroughly and repeat until the soil is level with the undisturbed area. The **soil line on the trunk or the spot where the topmost root meets the trunk should be 1 or 2 inches above the soil** around the tree. Pack the soil lightly with your heel.
- **Build a water ring** about 3 inches high around the edge of the planting hole, or dig a 2-3-inch ring basin around the drip line. Fill with water. The ring can be removed by the next growing season.



- Spread about 2 inches of mulch over the area, but **keep the mulch 3-4 inches away from the tree trunk**. Wet mulch can cause disease if it is in contact with the trunk.
- **During the first season, after the tree leafs out, water it for 5-6 minutes once a week or until the soil is saturated, even if it rains.**

CONGRATULATIONS – you've planted a legacy!