

TREE PLANTING SPECIFICATION

Root-ball trees

TIMING OF PLANTING

1. Root-ball stock can be planted all year round, but this does require additional watering to ensure newly planted trees do not dry out.
2. It is better to plant when trees are dormant – from November through to April.

CARE OF PLANTS

1. Take care when handling planting stock to ensure that no damage occurs.
2. Take all practical measures to prevent drying out of plant roots during lifting, storage, transit and planting operations.

GROUND PREPARATION

1. Choose your planting location carefully to ensure services are not affected in the short-term or as the tree matures.
2. Make sure you have the agreement of the landowner and that those involved in maintenance of the land are aware of the planting location.
3. Mark out the proposed planting positions with canes or spray-paint.
4. Break up any compacted topsoil to full depth.
5. Remove undesirable material, including stones, roots, grass or other debris.

PLANTING

1. Roots of all plants should be well watered prior to planting.
2. Planting holes to be 150mm wider and 300mm deeper than root ball.
3. Prior to planting remove containers/ hessian and cut back damaged roots.
4. Plant trees upright at root collar level and return excavated soil evenly around roots and heel in well.
5. Install stake and rubber tie to support the tree.
6. Install spiral guard on all trees.
7. Plant as close as possible to the position marked on the planting plan.
8. Remove any damaged, weak or diseased stems and branches with sharp secateurs.
9. Scatter a handful of general-purpose fertiliser around base of tree.
10. Install a layer of organic mulch or a mulch mat around the base of the tree.
11. Water the new plants well.

MAINTENANCE

1. Scatter a handful of general-purpose fertiliser around base of tree at the start of each growing season.
2. Ensure the tree is well watered through the spring and summer, particularly if it has been dry.
3. Keep a 1m diameter weed-free area around the stem of the tree through the growing season.
4. At least once a year check spiral/ cane or treeshelter/ stake to ensure they are firm and upright.
5. Check for damage by pests and ensure tree protection measures are adequate.