



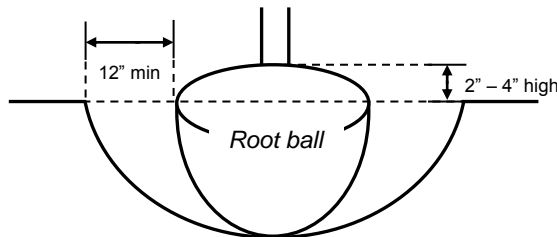
Planting and Watering Instructions

1

Dig the hole as described below.

WIDTH

- Trees:** Allow a 12" min space between the root ball and the edge of the hole.
- Shrubs:** Allow a 6" min space between the root ball and the edge of the hole.
- Perennials:** Allow a 4" min space between the root mass and the edge of the hole.



Keep the soil under the root ball solid.

Planting on a slope:
The depth of the hole is based off the high side of the hole.

DEPTH

The depth of the hole is determined by the vertical measurement of the root ball. Make sure that once the plant is in the hole, the top of the root ball is above ground level.

- Trees:** 2" – 4" high
- Shrubs:** 1" – 2" high
- Perennials:** 1" high

2

Remove the plant from the container and gently place it in the hole.

For balled and burlapped items:

1. Once you have carefully placed the tree in the hole, make sure it is standing straight and back fill slightly to hold it in position.
2. Cut and remove: All rope tied to the trunk, the top third of the wire basket and the exposed burlap.

3

Back fill the planting hole with a proper mix of soil.

Mix: One third of any of the following: Compost, Tree and Shrub Mix, Humus or Peat Moss.
WITH, Two thirds: The existing soil that came out of the hole.

4

Water thoroughly to eliminate air pockets and reduce transplant shock. (Stake if needed)

Deciduous trees that are 1" caliper or larger and evergreens that are 4' tall and larger should be staked for a **minimum** of one year, preferably two years.

5

★ **IMPORTANT** – Develop a proper watering plan for your location.

Many factors actually determine how often you will have to water your new plant. The soil condition at the planting location, the weather, possible irrigation run-off and other factors can all play a role in how often you will have to water. The recommended amount of water required for plants that have just been transplanted is fairly standard; however, the frequency can be very different from location to location. Conduct a soil moisture test as described below to determine how often you should water at your location.

Recommended amount of water per watering:

Trees: Apply *approximately* 10 gallons of water per inch of caliper, per watering. (For example, a 2" tree should receive *approximately* 20 gallons of water per watering.)

Shrubs: Apply *approximately* 2 - 3 gallons of water per watering.

Soil Moisture Test

(Three or four days after the planting and initial watering begin the test)

1. Dig a small hole with a garden trowel (8" – 12" deep for trees) and (4" – 6" deep for shrubs) at the base of the plant, between the root ball and the edge of the hole that was dug for the plant.
2. Take some of the soil at that depth and squeeze it in your hand. If the soil clumps together and stays in a ball, no additional water is needed at that time. DO NOT water the plant, wait one or two more days and repeat steps 1 and 2.
3. If the soil crumbles and won't hold together in a ball, the plant needs water. Water the plant. Take note of how many days since you watered last.
4. Wait three or four days and repeat steps 1 thru 4. Take note of how many days it took before your plant needed to be watered again.
5. Based on the results from the first two tests, adjust the number of days before you check the soil and repeat the test. After just a few weeks of checking the soil before watering and making adjustments, you will get a good idea of how often your new plant will need to be watered at *your* location

Watering guidelines and general care tips for newly planted trees and shrubs

Watering newly transplanted trees and shrubs

Watering is one of the most critical factors in the success of any newly transplanted plant. There are many factors that will determine the frequency and actual amount of water you will need to apply to your new plant; they include soil type, drainage, location, current weather trends, and possible irrigation run-off. The recommended amount of water required for plants that have just been transplanted is fairly standard; however, the frequency can be very different from location to location and your method of watering. As a general rule, long deep soakings are better than short frequent waterings. Don't be worried, this can seem overwhelming, but there are just a few guidelines and tips that you can follow to create a proper watering plan for the new plants at your location.

Recommended amount of water per watering

(If the plant receives no other water from any outside sources like rain, sprinkler system, irrigation run-off, etc.)

Trees: Apply approximately 10 gallons of water per inch of caliper, per watering.

(For example, a 2" tree should receive approximately 20 gallons of water per watering)

Shrubs: Apply approximately 2 – 3 gallons of water per watering.

At the time of planting:

Water each plant thoroughly to reduce transplant shock and eliminate air pockets around the root ball.

After initial watering, during the spring and summer months (Apr – Sept)

Many different watering methods are used for providing water to plants, they include: Hand watering, drip irrigation, lawn irrigation, soaker hoses, deep root watering devices, tree gators and others. Regardless of your watering method, it is best to conduct a soil moisture test prior to watering and develop a proper watering plan for you location. Follow the soil moisture test on the "**front of this sheet**" and make adjustments based on your location and watering method.

During the fall and winter months (Oct – Mar)

Apply the same amount of water per watering as in the spring and summer; however, you can reduce the frequency to approximately once or twice per month. A good rule of thumb is to water enough to maintain soil moisture in the root zone. This can be a critical to ensure your plants survive through cold and dry winter months.

Helpful watering tips:

- Be careful not to over water (*too frequently*); the root systems of plants need oxygen and oxygen cannot penetrate the soil when it is completely saturated. This is why long deep soakings each time you water are best. *Note:* Allow the soil around the plant to dry before you water again. This way you will ensure that the plant is getting both the water and oxygen that it needs.
- If your plant shows signs of stress after planting, don't assume that is from lack of water. You should assess what is causing the stress, it could be from lack of water or too much. After you determine the cause make the appropriate adjustments to your watering plan.
- Remember to focus your watering directly on the root mass of the plant, *get the water where the roots are*. This is why watering with a slow drip is best for any newly planted tree or shrub.

General care tips:

- Do not use fertilizer (nitrogen) on any plant until it is fully established. The nitrogen will tell the plant to grow, and it will. However, it is best to allow the plant to use its energy on re-establishing its root system to support its growth for years to come. After the plant is established, we fully recommend fertilizing your plants every spring to keep them strong and healthy.
- Stake larger newly planted trees until established to prevent the tree from shifting in heavy winds.
- Use tree wrap on all young trees with smooth bark to prevent sun-scaled. Rule of thumb: Halloween on, and Easter off.
- Apply insecticides and fungicides at the first signs of problems to avoid unnecessary stress on the plant.
- If you ever have any questions regarding your plants, please give us a call, we want to help make your garden and landscape healthy and beautiful for years to come!

Thank you for choosing Today's Nursery, LLC!

We appreciate YOU!

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