

POTTED TREES ARE PERFECT FOR

- An environmentally conscious gift
- To mark a special occasion or achievement
- To improve the natural beauty of your garden
- To help offset your environmental impact

By planting and caring for trees, you help improve your surrounding, reduce pollution, improve the appearance of your community and increase the value of your property. Trees absorb noise, dust and pollen as well as blocking wind, providing a more sheltered and enjoyable garden. You will also be providing a natural habitat for wildlife.

Trees not only release oxygen, they also absorb carbon dioxide and potentially harmful gasses, such as sulphur dioxide and carbon monoxide from the air.

One large tree can supply a day's supply of oxygen for four people

A healthy tree can absorb nearly 6 kgs of carbon each year

If you are interested in working out how many trees you should plant to offset your carbon output, [click here](#)

Or for more benefits of planting a tree [click here](#)

WHERE TO PLANT

When planting more than one tree it is best to allow space between them. A distance of at least 2 meters will allow the tree to spread, however a closer or wider spacing may be may be required. If wishing to create a hedging screen a distance of less than 2m would be acceptable. Spacing a tree at wider spacing will allow the tree to go towards it maximum spread.

Animal protection. Trees are susceptible to damage from a variety of animals and insects. To provide protection against rabbits, the stem needs to be protected with a guard to a height of at least 60cm until the stem is at least 10cm in diameter (this varies amongst species). Similarly, in the case of deer, the stem needs to be protected for at least 120cm to prevent stem damage. It may be necessary to use a variety of chemicals (environmentally friendly, to avoid insect/fungal/bacterial damage). I am not able to advise on such matters.

WHEN TO PLANT

Potted trees can be planted anytime of year.

1. Water pot thoroughly and allow to drain.

2. If planting in lawn, remove a circle of turf 60cm across
3. Dig a hole twice the size of the pot/container and fork over the base, incorporating a handful of general fertilizer and planting compost.
4. Drive in a circular tree stake a little off centre. Use a circular tree stake as using a square tree stake could result in the edges rubbing against the bark.
5. REMOVE POT and tease out any matted roots.
6. Position tree against stake with top of rootball level with surrounding soil.
7. Replace remaining soil, firming in well.
8. Secure tree to stake with adjustable rubber strap.
9. Apply some general fertilise every Spring.

MAINTENANCE

Watering

This is crucial for the survival of any tree. Time of year and climatic conditions will determine the frequency, but it may be necessary to water every day (best in the evenings after the sun has gone down).

Pruning

If a tree is being used to create a dense screen, pruning of the top and sides of the tree will encourage the development of a denser tree. Pruning is best carried out in late Autumn as there is less risk of infection of cut branches.