

Bare Root Tree Planting Guide

1.5/1.8 metre & 1.8/2.1 metre

This guide is for those who wish to plant their bare root trees themselves.

Delivery & Storage

When you receive your bare rooted stock you really need to plant them straight away, but if you are planning a short pause before planting them into the ground we suggest leaving them in the packaging in which they have arrived in, just overnight. Planting in extreme weather (very cold, frozen, wet or windy) is not ideal, so you may wish to delay. If you have already broken the packaging to inspect your plants then it is best to wrap them up again. Storing your plants in a cool environment is ideal, do not store them in your greenhouse or similar as when the temperature rises they will dry out quickly. The ideal place is somewhere outside with shelter from the elements and frost, always ensure the roots are moist. Check them from time to time and do not let them dry out.

Preparation for Planting.

Giving your plants the correct start is crucial for successful transplanting; this means taking the time to prepare the soil prior to planting. The first step is to remove any weeds growing in the immediate area where you would like to place your tree. If you have a heavy, compacted or clay soil it's important to dig thoroughly to ensure the tree has good drainage.

Planting

Choose a day when the soil is not too wet and is not frozen. The wrapping should not be removed until immediately before planting. Damaged roots should be cut back cleanly with a sharp knife or secateurs. The hole you dig should be tailored individually to your tree and its root system. Dig a square hole making sure the bottom of the hole has been dug over to aid drainage. Make sure the hole has enough room to comfortably fit the roots, without being squashed or forced. If some roots are extra long, trim them off at the root ball, this does not hurt or damage the tree. Place your stake firmly in the pit, just off-centre. Position the tree snugly against the stake checking the top of the stake is below the main branches of the tree, any smaller branches below can be trimmed off if they are interfering with the stake. You can choose from a selection of our stakes; machine rounded types for a smart appearance or natural hazel stakes for an environmentally friendly, rustic effect. For smaller trees we advise using treated square stakes for economy.



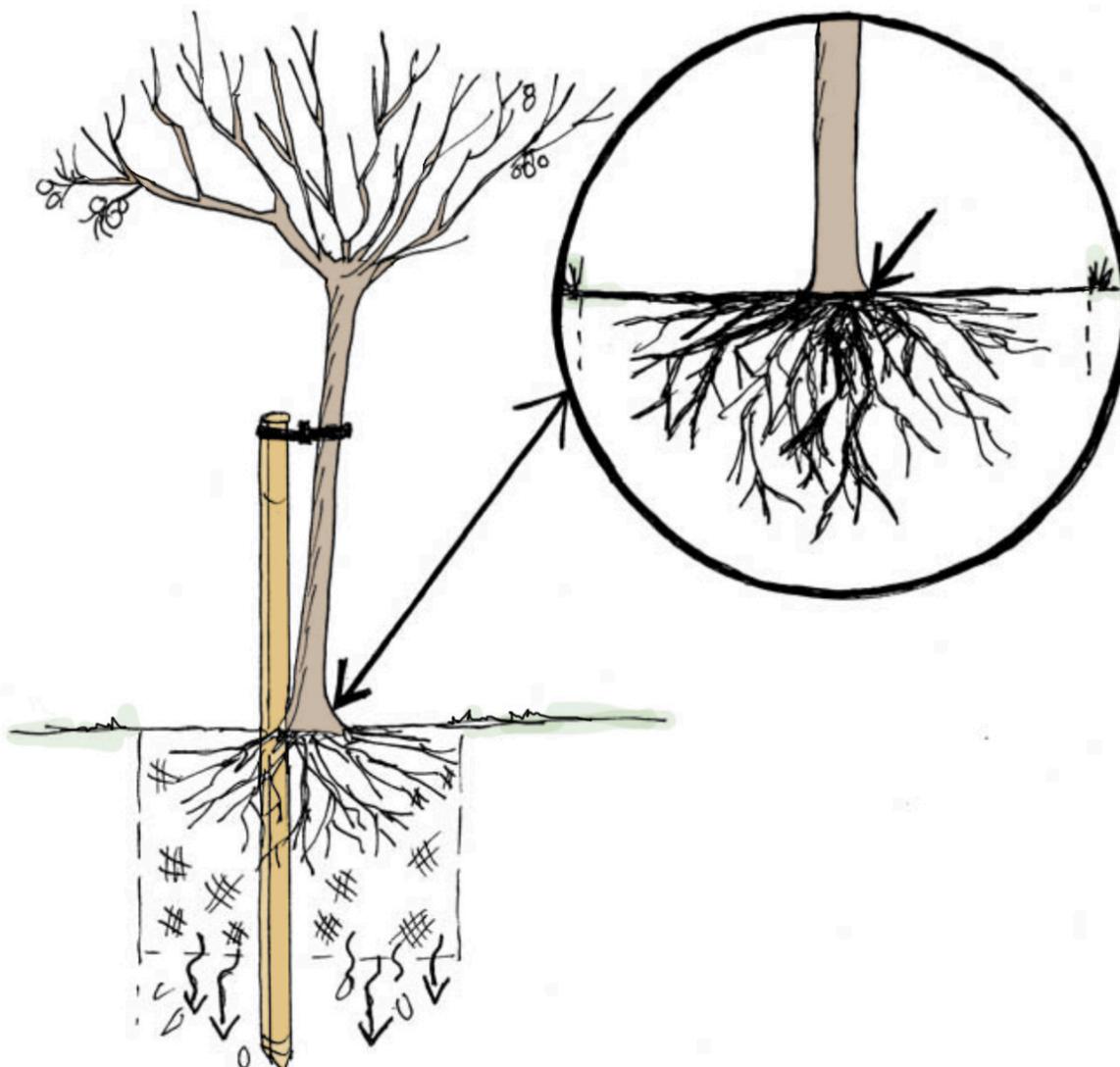
We recommend mixing the backfill with a slow release fertilizer and for this we suggest Fish, Blood and Bone it is an ideal organic choice. Add the soil in stages, half way through the process shake the tree up and down allowing the soil to fill in all the air gaps between the roots, continue filling the hole, gently firming the soil with your heels until you reach the original planting depth, indicated by the soil mark on the stem.

Where ground conditions are particularly difficult, for example in sandy, clay or impoverished soils, include mycorrhizal inoculants. This must be in contact with the roots when added and will aid plant growth by increasing the nutrient uptake.

Rootgrow	Plants	Plant Size
150g Sachet =	25 x	Bare Root Trees

Always fit your tree tie just below the top of the stake, ensuring no branches are interfering with the tie as this may cause damage. Trim branches if necessary. There are a few options with ties; a plastic reusable buckle tie or an environmentally friendly jute tie, which will biodegrade and break away over time as the tree settles in.

If you are planting a fruit tree make sure it is planted in soil with good drainage. We also recommend that you add eco green compost. Try to avoid frost pockets and well exposed sites. We can supply the fish, blood and bonemeal and the eco green compost on request.



Protection, Mulching and Irrigation

When you are ready to start mulching there are a few options to consider; straw, garden compost, municipal eco green compost or one of the pre-packed products such as bark. Natural mulch mats are another good option and are easy to fit, they are either made of bio-degradable straw or linseed. All will do the same job of keeping the moisture in the ground and preventing weed growth.

To encourage good healthy growth of your newly planted tree, watering is essential. We can advise you on all your irrigation questions and provide all the parts you need, along with some easy installation advice. If you have any problems with rabbits we recommend using the larger spirals, 50mm in diameter, wrapped around the tree stem.

We wish you happy planting, if you do need any further advice then please do not hesitate to contact us on the number below.