

Planting Trees

Before digging, call Dig Safely Oregon
1-800-332-2344 to locate underground utilities.

Before placing tree in hole, remove any broken or dead branches and double leaders. Always prune to a branch node. Remove any twine, tape or tags.

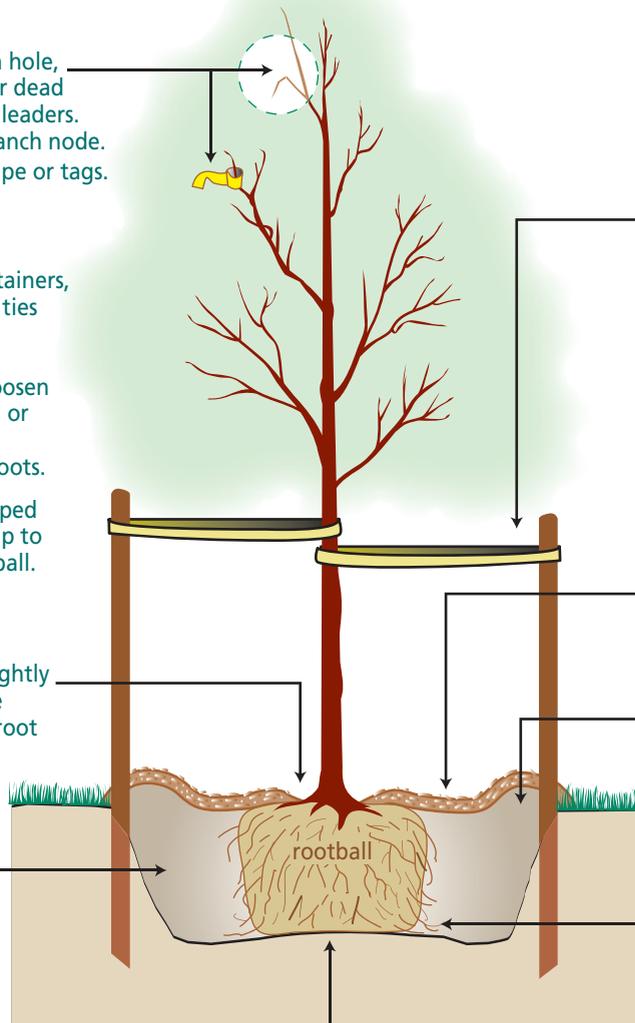
Carefully remove containers, wrappings, wires and ties from rootball.

For container trees, loosen outside roots by hand or score with a knife. Unwrap any circling roots.

For balled and burlapped trees, handle by burlap to avoid fracturing rootball.

Set root flare at or slightly above grade. Remove excess soil to expose root flare if necessary.

Dig hole at least two times the rootball diameter, and three times the diameter if soil is compacted.



Stake tree if it feels unstable. All street trees should be staked. Use two opposing sturdy stakes.

Secure stakes with wide flexible material such as webbing straps or chainlock ties. Allow for some tree movement.

Apply 3-4 " layer of mulch over rootball and soil. Keep the mulch 2-3" from trunk.

Create 5-6" high soil berm to contain water.

Backfill with existing soil from hole.

Pack soil at the base of the rootball to stabilize. Tamp the backfill lightly as you fill the hole.

Set the rootball on undisturbed soil to prevent tree from settling.

Establishment:

- Water deeply once a week during the first two summers. Apply a minimum of 5-10 gallons each week.
- Reapply mulch as necessary to maintain depth. Keep weeds and grass from growing in the mulch area.
- If staked, check periodically to make sure ties are not damaging the bark. Remove stakes after 1-2 years.



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www.portlandonline.com/bes/trees

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