

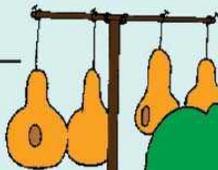


PROPER TREE MAINTENANCE



Start trees on the path to success by selecting the right tree for the right location. Use proper planting techniques to help roots re-establish quickly, and to help trees resume pretransplant growth rates. Keep trees healthy and encourage long life by following proper tree maintenance practices.

Do not nail or tie things to trees. Use separate supports for bird houses, feeders, ornaments and signs.



Keep watersprouts, and weak and crossing branches pruned out of crown interior.

Monitor for disease and insect problems. Use recommended controls.

Apply irrigation slowly to prevent runoff. Wet soil to a depth of at least 8" - 10." Avoid puddling, or overwatering trees when irrigating turf.



Apply only 2" - 3" of mulch. Do not use black plastic under mulch and do not pile mulch against the trunk.

Avoid digging drainage, utility or construction trenches through root zone.



Plant trees in locations that allow unobstructed growth to full size. Do not plant large trees against buildings, along sidewalks/driveways or under powerlines.

Do not "top" trees. Prune to direct growth while young. Remove competing leaders.

Prune broken, infested or infected branches when damage occurs.

Remove stakes or trunk protection needed at planting to avoid tree damage after the first year.

Apply slow-release fertilizers over entire turf and tree root zone areas. For weed control use only herbicides labeled as safe to trees.

Remove the top of wire baskets and peel "baling" burlap from the top of root balls to allow roots to expand and grow unobstructed.

PLANTING TREES AND SHRUBS

TYPES OF NURSERY STOCK

Bareroot



Heel in plants if not planted immediately. Neatly cut away any broken or damaged roots. Soak for a few hours prior to planting to rehydrate.

Container-Grown



Plastic or metal containers should be removed completely. Carefully cut through any circling roots. Remove top half of pressed peat/paper containers.

Balled-in-Burlap "B&B"



Cut baling ropes. Pull burlap down at least 1/3 of the way; slit remaining burlap to encourage root growth. If in a wire basket, cut away top section.

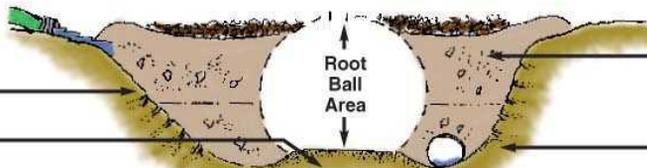
The Perfect Planting Hole

Partially backfill, water to settle soil, then finish backfilling hole

Widen and score hole wall

Leave solid soil pedestal

Do not dig deeper than root ball depth



Unamended backfill soil
(No peat, bark, sand, etc.)

Area for water drainage
(pipe or tile could be installed)

Dig hole 2-3 times root ball width

Your Finished Planting

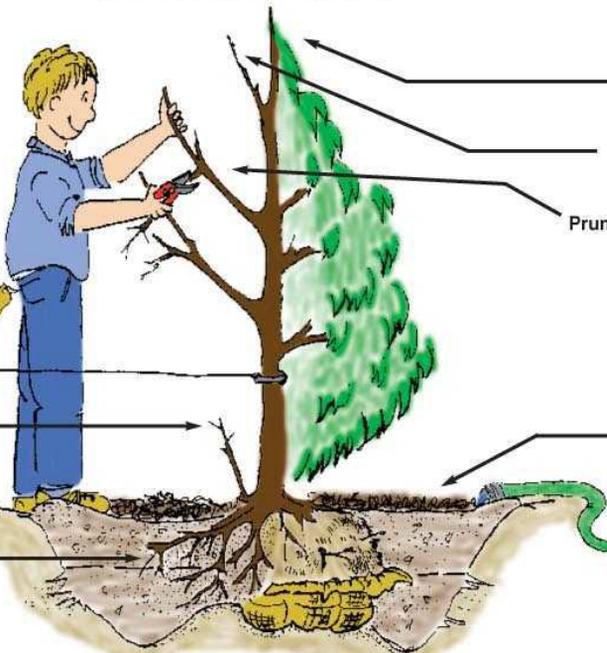
Remove tags and labels

Do not stake trunk unless the tree has a large crown, or the planting is situated on a windy site or where people may push them over

Stake for a maximum of one year

Prune basal suckers

Spread roots out over soil pedestal evenly before filling



Do not prune terminal leader or branch tips

Prune any codominant leaders or narrow crotch angles

Prune rubbing or crossed branches
Prune any broken branches

Note: Evergreens rarely require staking!

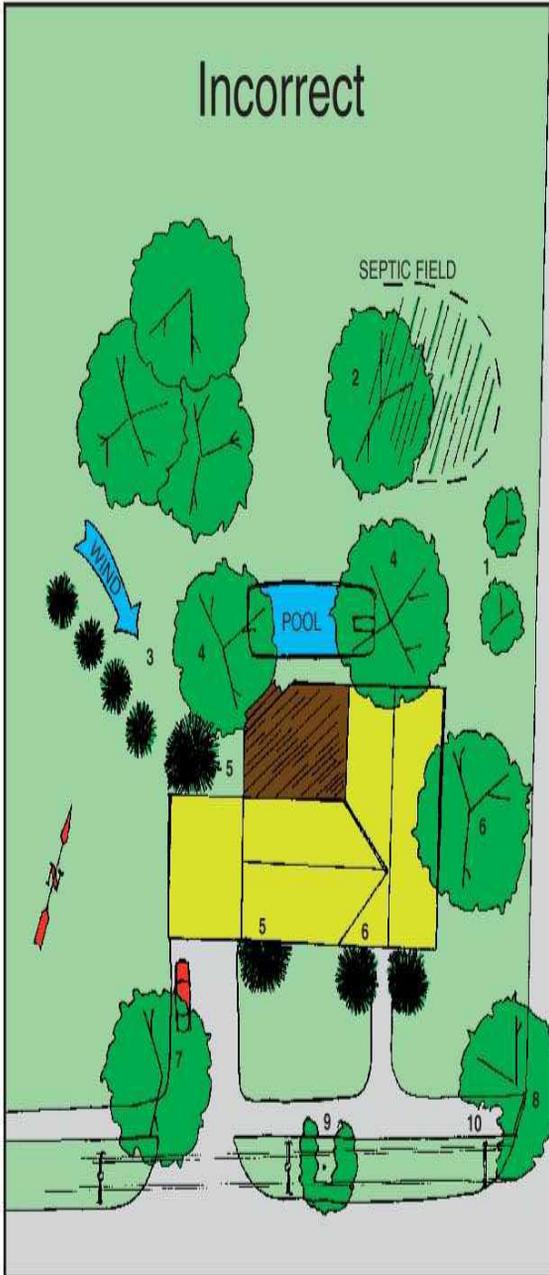
Add 2"-3" of mulch kept away from trunk

Soak soil well, making sure no air pockets form between roots, then apply mulch

Right Tree/Right Location

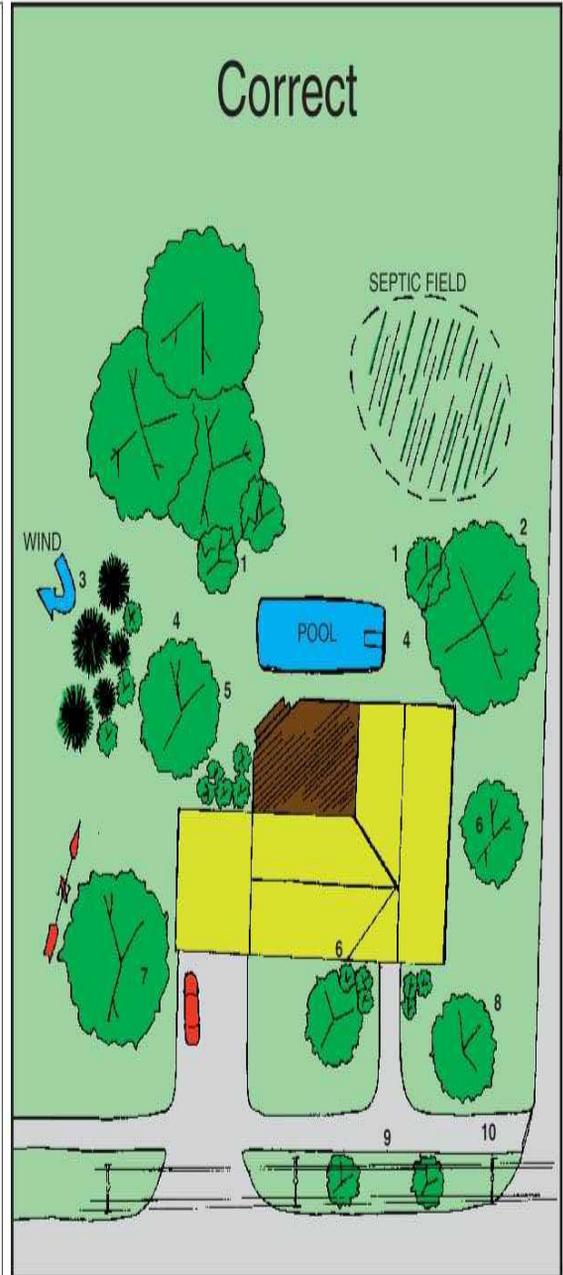
Even the most correctly planted tree will not grow well or meet your expectations if it is selected for or planted in the wrong location. Take the time to carefully plan your landscape before you plant your trees. Remember that a tree is a long term investment -- *plant the right tree in the right location!*

Incorrect



1. Plant understory trees, like dogwoods, in shade, not in full sun.
2. Do not plant water-loving trees, like willows, near septic fields or water sources. Relocate or change species.
3. Align trees for wind screens where they will block winter wind, not where wind will funnel around or between them.
4. Avoid planting trees with leaf or fruit "litter" near pools, decks and paving. Locate where they shade and self mulch.
5. Avoid planting evergreens where they block winter sun. Instead, plant deciduous trees for summer shade and winter solar radiation.
6. Avoid planting trees too close to the house. Plant further away, or plant smaller trees and shrubs.
7. Cars often scrape and bruise tree trunks. Locate trees away from parking spaces or areas where they can be vandalized.
8. Branches can create hazards or block views. Locate trees away from street corners, or vehicle and pedestrian traffic.
9. Avoid planting trees directly under utility lines. Locate trees away from lines or plant smaller, low-growing trees or large shrubs.
10. Plant trees away from sidewalks to allow root expansion without pavement buckling.

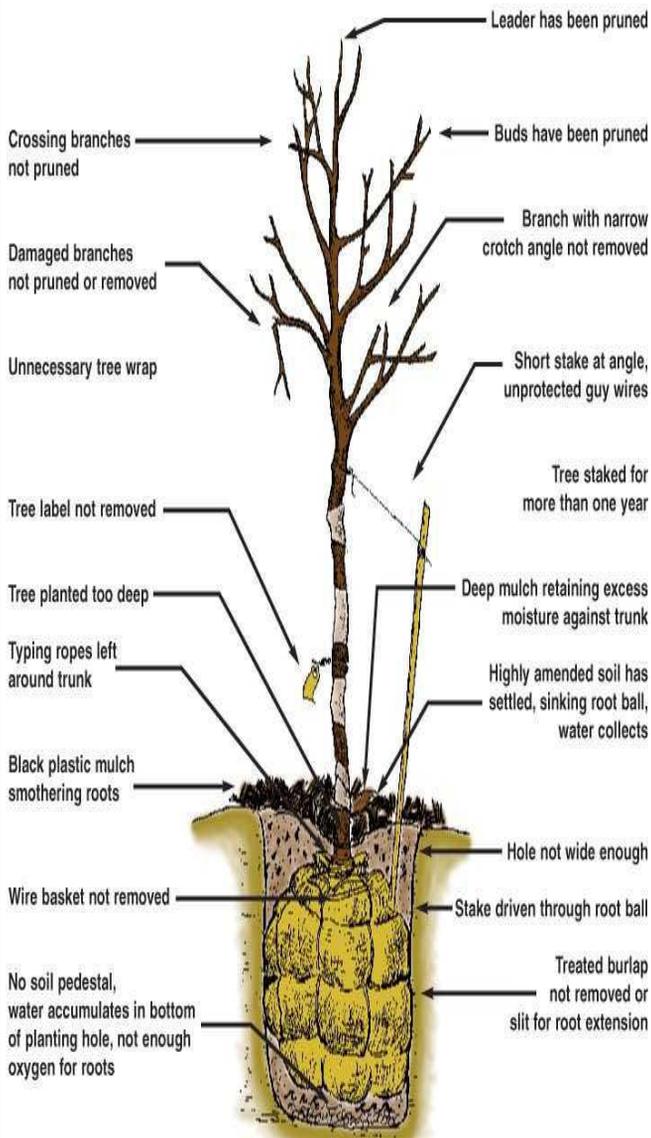
Correct



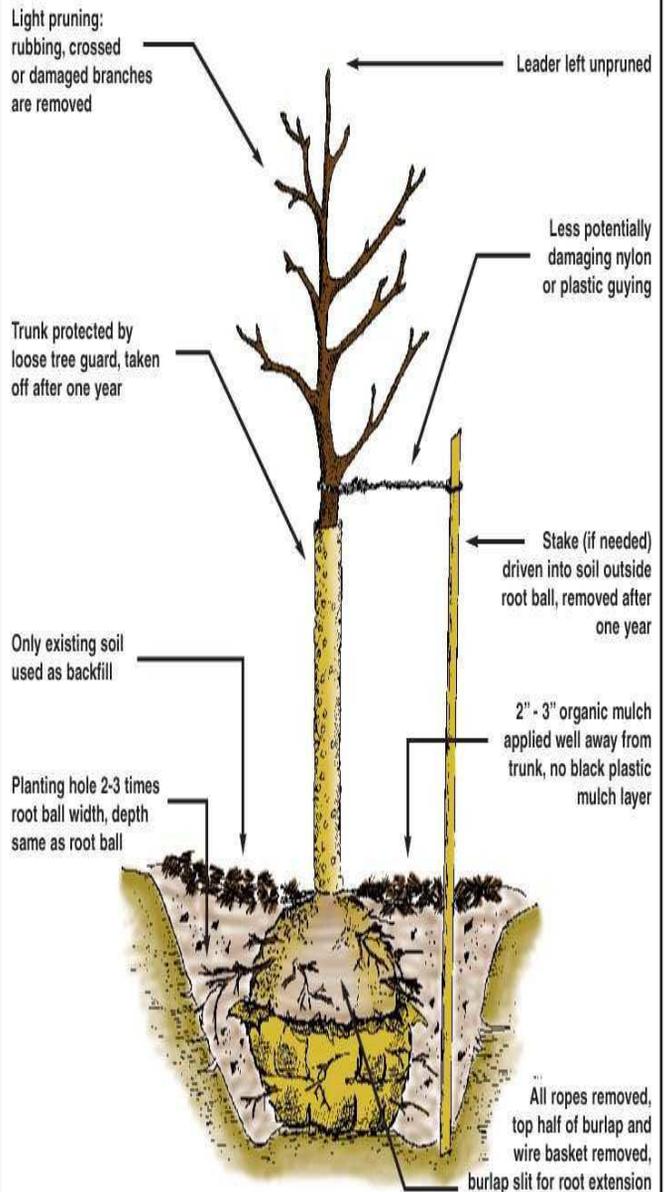
Tree Planting

To ensure healthy trees, start with Right Tree/Right Location.
Once you select a tree suited for your site and its microclimate, be sure to plant the tree correctly!

Incorrect



Correct

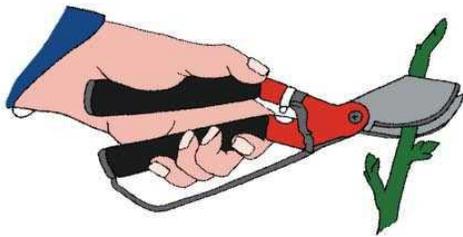


CORRECT CUT - CORRECT TOOL

Select pruning tools based on the size of the branch to be removed. Purchase ergonomically-designed (body-friendly) pruning tools that are lightweight & well balanced. Look for natural blade-to-handle attachment angles and larger handles with grip contouring and soft, slip-resistant surfaces. Do not “force” cuts with pruners that are too small or incorrect for the job. The correct tool makes pruning easy for you and your plants.

Hand Pruners and Loppers

(branches up to 3/4" diameter)



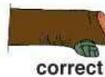
Heading Cuts (partial branch removal): Heading stimulates growth of buds closest to the cut. The direction in which the bud directly below the cut is pointing will determine the direction of new growth. Make heading cuts selectively to reduce height and retain natural form.



wrong-too long, stub will die back

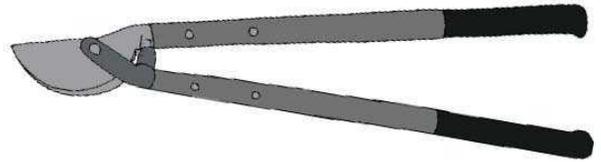


wrong-too close, bud will dry out

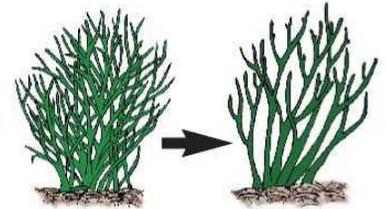


correct

(branches up to 1 1/2" diameter)

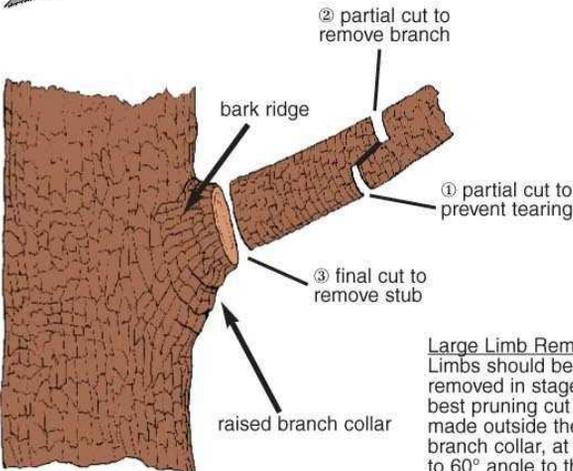
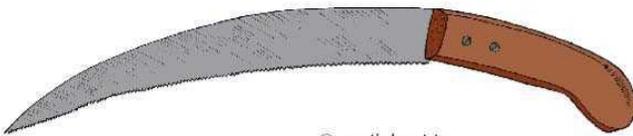


Thinning Cuts (total branch removal): Thinning removes branches at their point of origin or attachment. Used in moderation, thinning cuts reduce density without stimulating regrowth.



Pruning Saw

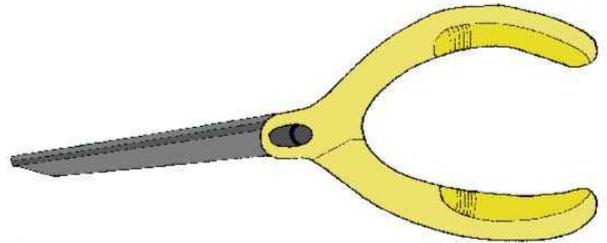
(large diameter branches)



Large Limb Removal: Limbs should be removed in stages. The best pruning cut is made outside the branch collar, at a 45° to 60° angle to the branch bark ridge.

Pruning Shears

(formal pruning)



Restrict use of shearing to hedges, formal plant shaping and plants unsuited for naturalistic pruning (individual stem/branch removal).

Be sure top of hedge is narrower than bottom to prevent shading and die-out of bottom foliage.