Planting Trees & Shrubs

PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS
Always start a new planting with a well-watered plant; roots will be more pliable and transplant shock will be reduced.

Dig your planting hole the depth of the root mass and 2-3 times the width. The plant should be planted at the same depth as it was in the pot; no deeper or higher. In dry months you may want to water the planting hole well and allow it to fully drain before planting to establish a moist environment for roots to flourish.

Shake off excess soil from roots to inspect them. Gently but firmly coax the roots out of the pot shape. Trim circling, girdling or kinked roots. Spread the roots out in all directions like a skirt. If the plant is excessively root-bound, you may make vertical cuts a short way into the sides of the roots and slice off the bottom-most roots. For balled and burlapped plants, it is easiest to leave the burlap on when checking planting depth then cut the ties and gently remove burlap. Remove plants from compostable pots before planting.

Backfill the planting hole with the original loosened soil. If you have infertile or poorly draining soil, it's better to amend the whole planting area rather than just the planting hole. Amending just the planting hole risks creating a well of water around your plant roots. (If you have extremely poor soil and decide to go ahead and add compost to the planting hole, use a ratio of 1/3 compost to 2/3 original soil.) You can also add E.B. Stone Sure Start or Espoma Bio-Tone Starter Plant Fertilizer to the soil to encourage root growth.

Add a few inches of mulch (bark mulch, wood chips, Fertil-Mulch® or leaf litter) to the ground around the plant keeping it away from the stem or trunk of the plant.

WATERING INSTRUCTIONS
Plants need consistent watering in the first three years of planting in order to establish good root growth. Water deeply, checking to make sure water is penetrating the soil around the roots. Allow the soil to dry out slightly between watering. For the first few months after planting, check the soil to a depth of 4 inches every few days to ensure the soil is neither too soggy nor too dry.

You can build a soil berm around the edge of your planting area to create a basin to catch water and direct it to the new root zone

STAKING TREES & SHRUBS
If a tree needs staking, stake no more than two thirds the height of the tree. Drive the stakes outside the root mass area. Remove the stakes as soon as the tree is stable or after one year.

PLANT GUARANTEE

Sky Nursery guarantees trees and shrubs for one (1) year after purchase. (Perennials and indoor plants are guaranteed for 90 days; vegetables and annuals for 14 days.) If you're not happy with your purchase, bring it back with proof of purchase. Returns are processed for a refund with a receipt, & store credit without.

RETURN POLICY

Our goal at Sky is to help you succeed as a gardener. That means we're here to celebrate when your project goes well, and we've got your back when things don't go as planned. We accept returns on regular priced trees and shrubs in sellable condition (original pots, original condition) for up to 30 days after purchase. (Perennials and indoor plants may be returned in original condition for up to 30 days; vegetables and annuals for up to 7 days.) Please bring in the plant and proof of purchase, and a manager will verify that the plants are in sellable condition. Returns are processed for a refund with a receipt, & store credit without.