

# Planting Container-Grown Trees and Shrubs

## A Step-by-step Guide

From the Professionals at

*four seasons*  
**four seasons**  
**NURSERY**



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## *Step-By-Step Guide to Planting* **Container-Grown Trees and Shrubs**

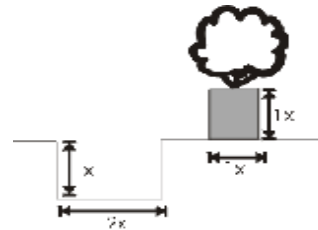
Container grown trees and shrubs are easy to plant and can be planted almost any time of year. Follow these steps for sure success.

### 1. Selecting a place for your plant

When you get your plants home, it is a good idea to place them in a shady area and water them. This helps prevent some of the shock related to transport.

Select a place for your plant that meets the requirements of the plant such as sun/shade, wet/dry etc. Be sure the plant will not over-grow the area or if it must be pruned, there is access to it.

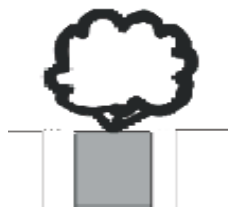
### 2. Digging the hole



Dig the hole equal to the depth of the root ball and twice as wide. For larger trees with big root balls, holes should be at least 8" wider all the way around.

### 3. Setting the tree or shrub

Remove the container and set the tree or shrub in the hole level and straight so that the best side of the plant faces the most visible view. Look at the plant from every angle and turn it to best suit its purpose. Be sure the root ball is even with the native soil line or slightly higher. Plants that are sensitive to wet soils should be planted higher with the soil mounded around.



### 4. Bury the root ball half way

Mix one part native soil with one part **Gardner & Bloome Soil Building Compost** and back fill the hole half way packing it firmly in place.

If you are planting a tree and it needs staking, now is the time to do that. Use at least 2 stakes and tie with a plastic tie tape such as Stretch-Tie.



### 5. Finish filling the hole

Finish filling the hole with the soil/mulch mix and pack firmly in place. If you are mounding, be sure the soil slopes



gently away from the center of the plant. The top of the root ball should be just barely under the soil surface— $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. should be enough.

If the plant was previously balled in burlap, cut the strings and peel the burlap away from the trunk. Cut the burlap from the top of the root ball or tuck it in the hole. The remaining burlap will quickly rot away.



If you are going to use bark or mulch over the planting bed, be sure not to bury the plant too deep.

