

## Securing a Tree

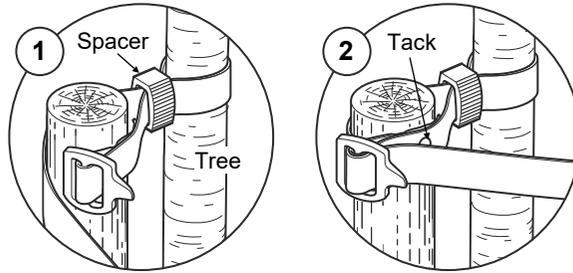
### Tree Tie

Slide the spacer onto the tie, place around the tree and back through the spacer (**dia 1**).

Wrap the tie around the stake through the tie buckle, do not over tighten (**dia 2**).

Finally fix the tie to the stake at the buckle side using a tack.

Remember to loosen the tree tie as the stem thickens.



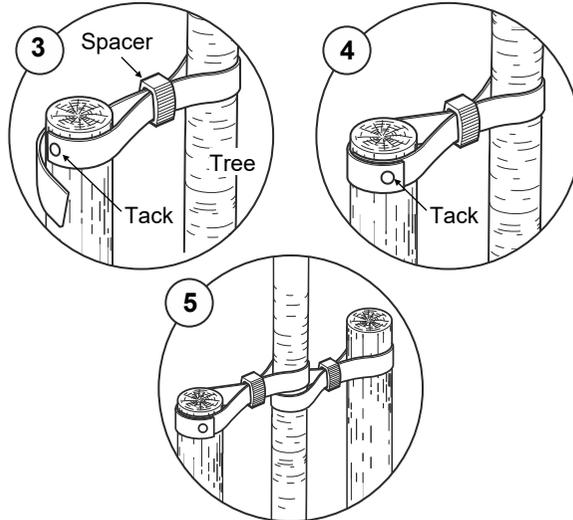
### Tree Strap

Use strapping for larger trees.

Tack the first end of the strap to the stake, slide on a spacer wrap around the tree and back through the spacer (**dia 3**).

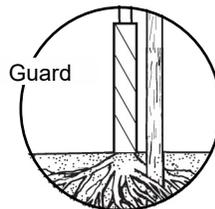
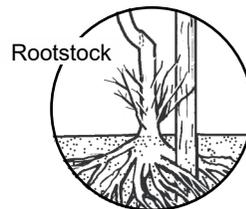
Wrap the remaining strap around the stake and fix with another tack, avoiding the first tack (**dia 4**).

If using two tree stakes repeat for the other side (**dia 5**).



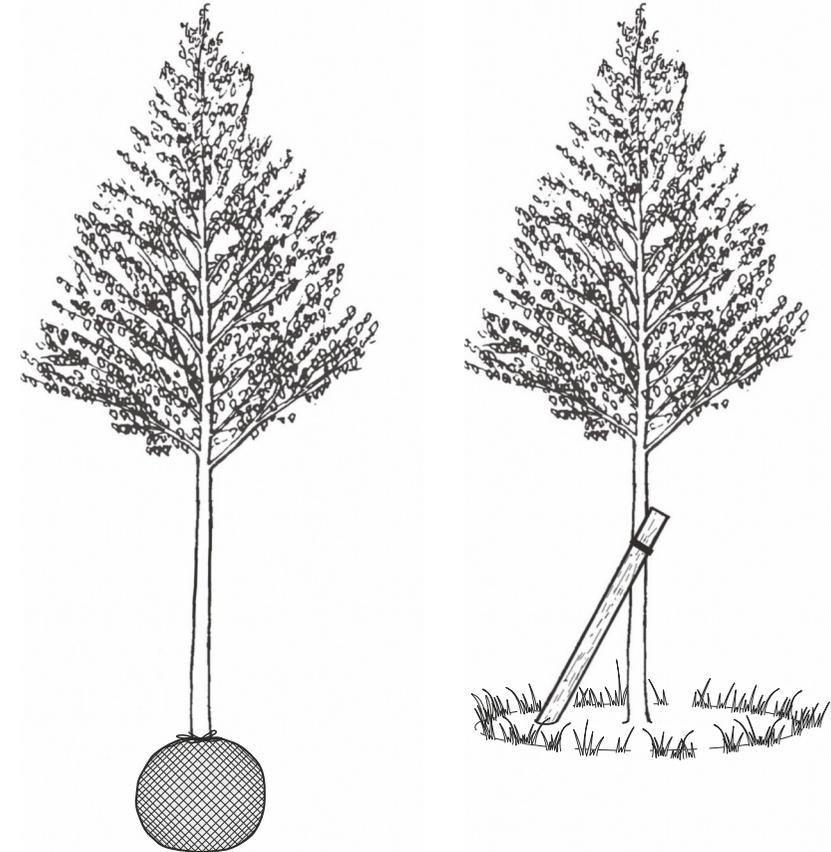
## Aftercare

- To avoid competition for water and nutrients provide a weed-free circle of 1 Metre diameter around the plant.
- This can be achieved with herbicide or mulch, and should continue for two years after planting.
- Check the plant occasionally.
- When watering give the plant sufficient water to soak down to the roots.
- If it has rocked in the wind, firm the base or supply additional support.
- Prune off any damaged or diseased parts.
- Prune off any Rootstock growth.
- Loosen tree ties as the stem thickens.
- Protect the plant from animal and strimmer damage. (See our range plant care products).



## Landcare Tree Nursery

Old Sodbury



Planting a new tree is not a difficult job. Getting it right will give your new plants the best start in life. Newly planted trees do best when they are able to acclimatise before the onset of dry weather or freezing ground conditions.

## Planting and Aftercare of Root Balled Trees and Shrubs

[www.landcaretrees.co.uk](http://www.landcaretrees.co.uk)

## Planting a Root Ball Tree

Root balled trees and evergreen shrubs have usually been grown in soil in open ground. They have fibrous root system which remains intact which will help them to establish. They are best planted from autumn to early spring.

1. In the required position dig a hole large enough for the root ball, there should be at least 100mm all around the root ball.

Prepare the soil by mixing in some soil conditioner or well rotted organic material (do not use the sub-soil that was dug from the hole).

2. Water the tree thoroughly.

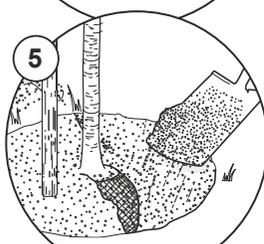
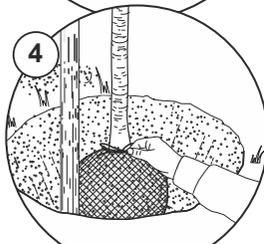
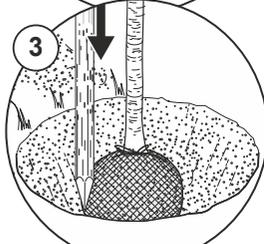
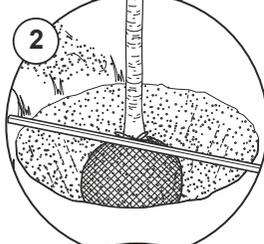
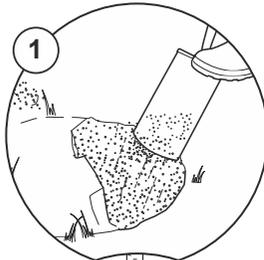
Place in the hole and check the level the root ball using a cane or stake, the top the root ball should be level with the ground surface and not below. Adjust the depth of the hole accordingly by digging it out further or adding more soil.

3. Position the stake in the required position. If you find the root ball is in the way angle the stake into the bottom of the hole (see right) ensure that the top of the stake is near enough to the tree for the tree tie to be fitted later. Remove the tree and bang in the stake.

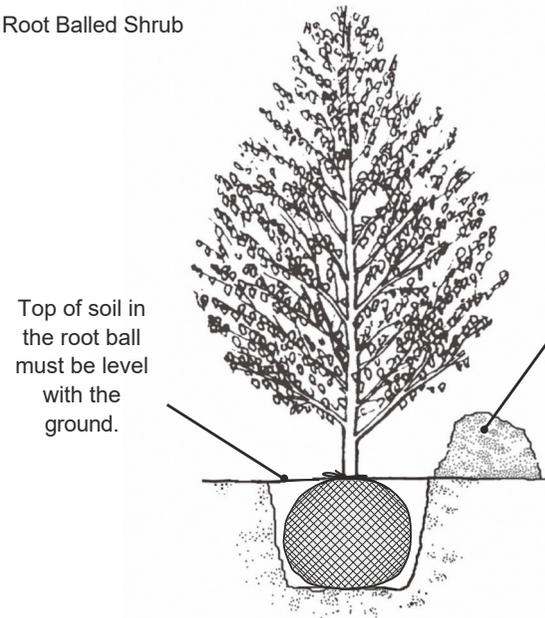
4. Place the root ball in position next to the stake. Untie the string at the top of the root ball and pull away the sack from the top of the root ball, do not remove the sack.

5. Backfill the hole using the prepare topsoil. Tread on the soil to firm in the tree. Water in well. Use a mulch to keep to away the weeds and help contain the moisture.

Finally secure the tree to the stake using a tree tie (see over page).

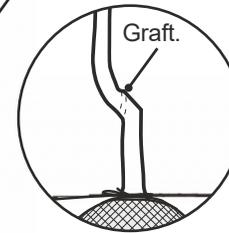


Root Balled Shrub

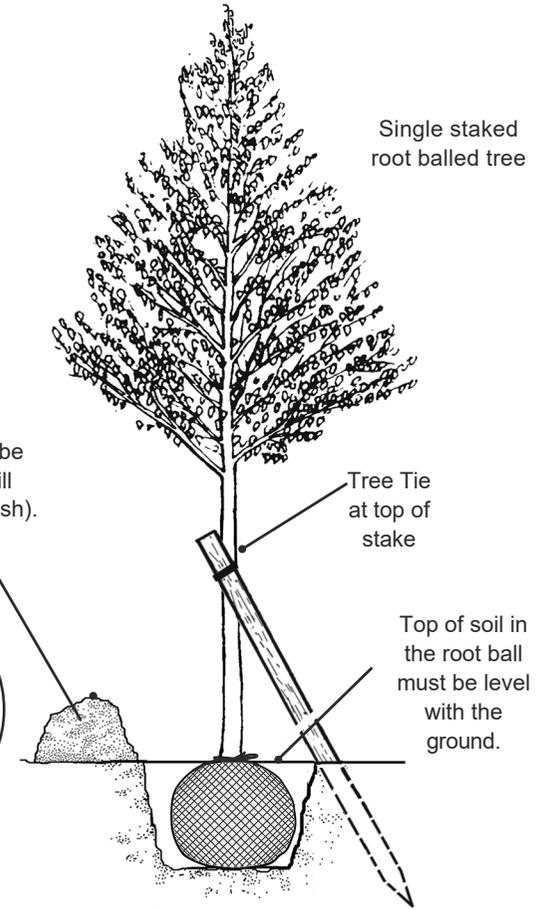


Break up soil at bottom of hole.

Any added fertiliser to be mixed well with backfill (Manure must not be fresh).



The graft is not the planting height.



Break up soil at bottom of hole.

Single staked root balled tree

## Tips for planting a Root Balled Tree

- Plant as immediately as possible.
- Water if dry.
- Dig a big enough hole to give root ball plenty of room.
- Place the root ball into the hole, untie or cut off the top of the hessian sack (do not remove the sack).
- Mix soil conditioner with backfill to encourage roots to grow out from potting medium.
- Trees and Shrubs must be planted so the soil the top of the root ball is level with the surface of the ground.
- Firm in well.
- Keep weeds away; they compete for valuable water and nutrients.
- When using Mulches do not pile it against the stem; they can rot the stem.