

planting guide

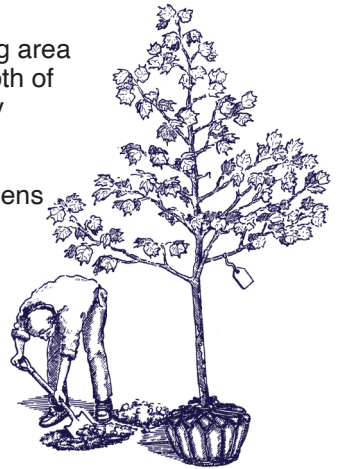
SOIL PREPARATION

All types of plants will grow better when given the proper soil conditions. If your conditions are not ideal, you'll want to take the extra steps to make your soil nice and loose over as large of an area as possible. The addition of Sphagnum Peat will help both sandy and clay soils. In sandy soils, it will help hold more water and in clay soils, there will be less compaction and your soil will be easier to use.

Spread 2-3" of **Sphagnum Peat** over the planting area and thoroughly dig in or rototill to a minimum depth of at least 6-8". Rake the soil level and remove any large clumps.

For Azaleas, Rhododendrons, Broadleaf Evergreens and other acid-loving plants, spread a 2-3" layer of **Pine Bark Mulch** over the planting area and dig in or rototill one more time.

Once these preparations have been made, begin the planting process by following these instructions.



Set rootball even with ground level

ground level



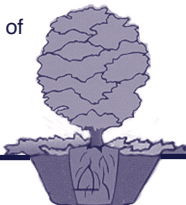
DIGGING THE HOLE

GOOD SOIL

In well drained or loose soils, dig the hole twice the width of the rootball and as deep, or slightly shallower.

Set 25% of rootball above ground level

ground level



POOR SOIL

In poorly drained or hard, compacted soils, dig the hole three times the width of the rootball and 75% as deep.

WATER

Thoroughly water the soil within all rootballs/containers **BEFORE** planting. It is often difficult to sufficiently moisten a dry rootball once it is placed in the ground.

DIFFERENT CONTAINERS

PLASTIC CONTAINER PLANTS OR PACKS

Remove plastic pot. If roots are firmly packed or encircling the rootball, gently loosen them by breaking apart with your fingertips or by making several shallow vertical cuts, then loosening further with your fingers.

BALLED & BURLAPPED PLANTS

Trees and shrubs that have their rootballs covered by brown or green burlap should be handled gently by the rootball. Do not cut or remove any burlap, ropes or wire cages until the plant has been placed in the hole and has been properly positioned.

Once the soil has been placed around the plant, you **MUST** cut away all ropes and pull back any burlap that encircles the stem. (All of the burlap can be then left in the ground.) Rootballs with wire cage supports should have the upper 6-10" removed with either wire cutters or by bending the wire back and forth repeatedly until it breaks. (The bottom of the wire cage should remain in the hole.)

FILLING THE HOLE

Break up the soil that has been removed from the hole so that it is loose and crumbly. Prepare a backfill mix of 1 part sphagnum peat to 3 parts of existing soil. Thoroughly mix the peat and soil together and begin filling the hole around the rootball, packing lightly as you go. Once the hole is partially filled, you'll want to pull back the burlap, ropes or wire cages at this time (as described above).

Then, apply a liberal amount of water mixed with **Root & Grow Root Stimulator**. Allow the solution to soak in before filling the hole with remaining soil. Next, construct a small rim of soil just beyond the outer edge of the rootball to collect water and direct it down to the roots when watering by hand.

MULCHING

For best results, apply organic mulches such as shredded bark, bark chips, woodchips or pine straw at the specified depth around these plantings:

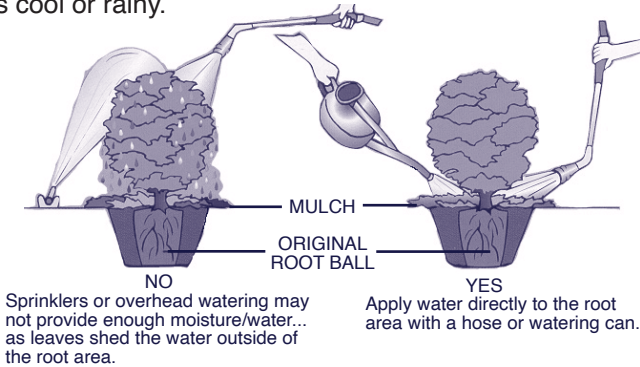
- 3 INCHES DEEP around trees, shrubs and evergreens
- 1-2 INCHES DEEP around roses and most perennials

Keep mulches 3-6" away from tree trunks, plant stems or around the base of perennials. For more information on the use of mulch materials, please refer to our **Mulching Guide** (available online).

NOTE: DO NOT mulch around **annuals** as it can inhibit their performance.

WATERING

Watering frequency can vary with plant types and weather conditions. In general, water more often during warm, windy weather and less often when it's cool or rainy.



STAKING

Most larger plants do not need to be staked after planting unless they are placed in a windy location or they are very tall. Our Garden Stores carry a complete line of staking supplies should this process be necessary. Once staked, the plant should be able to move a few inches in all directions. Remove all stakes after one year.

FERTILIZING

We recommend using **Root & Grow Root Stimulator** when planting trees, shrubs, evergreens and perennials. In addition, we recommend the following fertilizers during the growing season to help promote plant vigor. Always follow label directions for rate and timing information.

When planting trees, shrubs and perennials use Root & Grow

Plant Category

Annuals
Perennials
Trees & Shrubs/Evergreens
Broadleaf Evergreens
Roses

Recommended On-going Fertilizers

Better Blooms™ Annual & Houseplant Fertilizer
Espoma Plant-tone
Espoma Plant-tone
Espoma Holly-tone
Bio-Advanced All-In-One Rose & Flower Care
or Espoma Rose-tone

**KEEP YOUR RECEIPT/INVOICE
TO INSURE WARRANTY REQUIREMENTS**

MERCHANDISE RETURN POLICY

We stand by the quality of our plants and all merchandise sold in our garden centers, therefore we're pleased to accept returns for purchases made at our retail stores. Returns must include the merchandise plus original receipt.

OUTDOOR TREES & SHRUBS	1 YEAR*	* OR JUNE 15th OF THE NEXT YEAR Whichever is greater
ROSES & PERENNIALS	OCT. 31*	* OF THE YEAR PURCHASED
ANNUALS, INDOOR PLANTS & TROPICALS	7 DAYS	
NON-PLANT MERCHANDISE	30 DAYS	
DEFECTIVE HARD GOODS	1 YEAR	
CHRISTMAS ITEMS	DEC 10*	* OF THE YEAR PURCHASED No returns or exchanges allowed after this date

* Bordine's e-club Rewards Member Extended Warranties & Benefits:

- Roses & Perennials - 1 Year or June 15th of the next year, whichever is greater
- **Can't find your receipt?** As a rewards member we have your receipt on file

Conditions

- **Non-saleable** merchandise, planted or dead plants are eligible for a **MERCHANDISE CREDIT**, good for one year.
- Plant warranty does not imply plant replacement; credit is for the amount paid.
- **Replacement plants** are **not warrantied**. (Plants purchased using a merchandise credit)
- All items, including **sale items**, are warrantied for **purchase price only**.
- **Re-saleable** merchandise or re-saleable live plants that have not been planted and are still in their original container are eligible for a refund.
- No returns on special orders or clearance items.
- Merchandise accompanied by a gift receipt will be issued a store credit only.
- Returns **without a receipt** may be eligible to receive a **store credit** at the lowest price offered.
- No returns on gift cards.
- Refunds will be issued using the payment method originally tendered.
- Return of material over \$150, paid for by cash or check, will be refunded by mail within 7 days.
- One-time price adjustment will be made within 5 days of purchase, except on 'Daily Deal' sales.
- Warranties begin on the **original date** of purchase.
- Warranties **do not cover** acts of God, animal damage, frost or drought.
- We reserve the right to void any/all warranty coverage due to lack of watering, neglect or providing false customer information.
- We reserve the right to limit or refuse refunds.

