



Planting Guide & Guarantee

Simple planting steps to help you succeed with the newest addition to your garden

The Basics

Soil: Not dirt! Soil is a mixture of organic and inorganic materials, microorganisms, nutrients, air and moisture. Much of the soil in our area contains clay, which causes soil to be heavy and retain too much water. Almost all perennial plants and trees need well-drained soil to prevent root rot and to grow well. Depending on your soil type, you will likely need an addition of up to 50% bark mulch to provide improved growing conditions.

Loam: A medium weight soil usually composed of a sand, silt and clay mix.

Bark Mulch: Fine pieces of hemlock or fir (do not use cedar) bark that break up heavy soils and improve drainage. When applied above ground, bark mulch acts as a weed retardant, improves water retention during summer and helps insulate roots during winter.

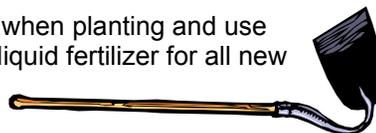
Blended Top Soil: A soil additive consisting of peat moss, sand and other organic and inorganic material. Usually added to increase soil volume, not as a sole growing medium.

Bone Meal: A granular product that promotes root growth. Should be added to planting holes before planting.

Garden Beds

Sod should be removed to desired size and shape of bed and composted. Dig out soil to a depth of 16" and mix with peat moss, manure and loam. Heavy clay soils can be opened up with the addition of fir or hemlock bark mulch, worked in until the soil crumbles nicely. Bark mulch may be also be used as a top dressing to conserve soil moisture.

Water all plants well when planting and use a liquid transplanter liquid fertilizer for all new plantings.



Checklist

- Bark Mulch
- Top Soil
- Bone Meal
- Liquid Transplanter
- Stakes and Tree Ties

Our Guarantee

6 Months From Date of Purchase*

RECEIPT MUST BE KEPT AND PLANT RETURNED.

*All Country Garden nursery stock is guaranteed to the purchase price for six months from the date of purchase, providing the plant has been properly planted and cared for and has been planted in the ground, not in a container.

We are not responsible for damage caused by severe winters or weather conditions. *Receipt and plant must be presented at time of return.* Nursery stock is replaced only once. 'Final Sale' items do not qualify for the guarantee.



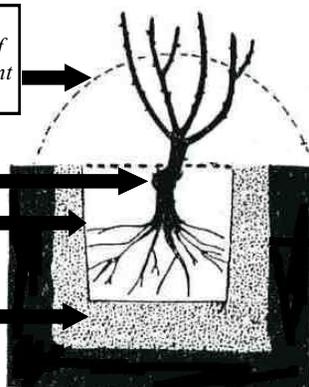
10015 Young Rd. Chilliwack, BC, V2P 4V4 Ph:604.792.6612
www.mintergardening.com

Winter protection: mulch or soil should be mounded to a height of 12" to act as insulation to prevent freezing and thawing on graft

Union or crown should be just below surface

Remove pots carefully

Good soil mixed with composted manure, bark mulch and bone meal



Planting Distance:

Miniature 12-18" apart
Floribundas 3-4' apart
Climbers 6-8' apart

Hybrid Teas 3-4' apart
Grandifloras 3-4' apart
Shrub Roses 5-6' apart

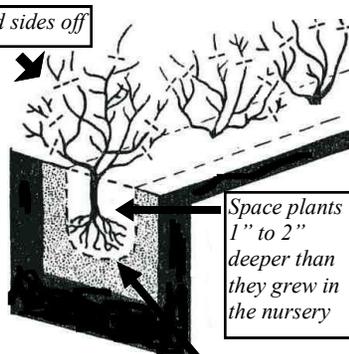
Remember to fertilize and spray roses regularly with both an insecticide and fungicide to prevent aphids, mites, blackspot and mildew. Organic products are readily available for this as well. An October feeding with 4-10-10 will help harden them off for winter.

Hedges

Lift off an 18" wide strip of sod and compost it.

Prune top and sides off

Dig a trench 18" wide and 15-18" deep, removing all gravel, clay materials and debris. Add a mixture of 50% good soil and 50% fir or hemlock bark mulch and bonemeal (as per package directions).



Space plants 1" to 2" deeper than they grew in the nursery

Hole should be 18"x18" in a trench prepared with fine fir or hemlock bark mulch and soil

Individual plants should be set one inch deeper than their initial soil level in the pot. Tamp soil to expel air pockets. Water in well, then water using a liquid transplanter fertilizer.

Lightly cut back tops to encourage dense growth at the ground level. Once planted, water as necessary using ample water and feed weekly with a liquid transplanter fertilizer until the hedge is established.

Note: Trench sizes will vary according to plant size.

Deciduous Trees

The planting should be at least 12" wider and deeper than the root ball. For example: A root ball 18" wide and 12" deep requires a minimum hole 30" wide and 24" deep. The hole should be generally be 1½ to 2 times larger than the root ball so that it is deep enough to accommodate the root system without crowding.

After digging is complete, backfill the hole with good soil to a depth 3" more shallow than the depth of the root ball. The soil mix should consist of 50% bark mulch and 50% good soil.

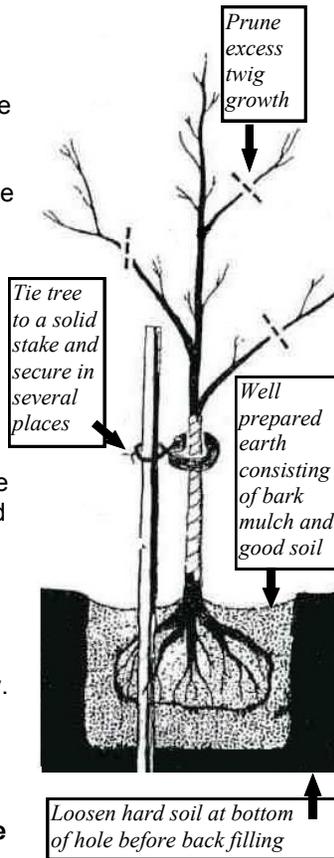
Place the tree in the hole. Trees in fiber pots should have pots removed carefully. If the tree is balled and burlapped, cut the string around the burlap (the tree **MUST** be in the hole first), **but leave the burlap on the root ball**. Backfill the hole being sure to tamp down the soil to remove air pockets.

Attach the tree to a wooden stake (on prevailing wind side) using plastic ties. This stake should remain until the root system is well established. Be sure to inspect the tie regularly so that the tree is not girdled.

Finally, prune off any excess growth to encourage the tree to branch out in the shape and form desired. Refer to our Pruning Guide for more information on pruning.

After planting, water the tree well using a liquid transplanter fertilizer. Feed weekly with the transplanter until the roots are well established.

After planting, shade trees should be watered when the soil becomes dry, giving ample water each time.



Evergreen Trees

Prepare a hole 1 ½ to 2 times the width and depth of the root ball.

Loosen up the tightly bound root system to allow roots to adapt to the new soil.

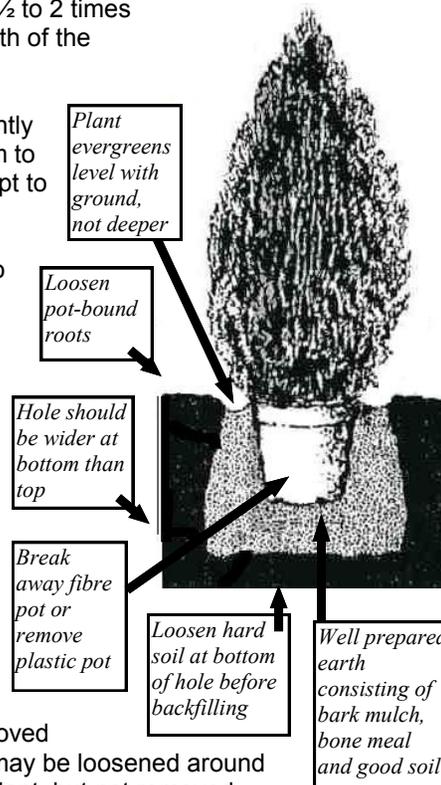
Backfill the hole to the depth of the original pot with a good mixture of soil, consisting of 50% bark mulch and 50% good soil. Avoid using manures with evergreens.

ALWAYS LIFT TREES BY THE POT, NOT THE BRANCHES. Plastic and fibre pots must be removed carefully. Burlap may be loosened around the 'neck' of the plant, but not removed.

Once in the hole, back fill with the soil mixture and tamp soil to prevent air pockets. Give the root ball a drink half-way through backfilling to ensure the bottom most roots are moist. Plant evergreens level with the ground, not deeper.

After planting, water the tree well using a liquid transplanter fertilizer. Feed weekly with the transplanter until the roots are well established.

Evergreen trees should be watered when the soil becomes a little dry, giving ample water each time.



Flowering Shrubs

There are three important requirements for success with a flowering tree or shrub:

1. Good air circulation
2. Good sun exposure
3. Good drainage

The planting area should be thoroughly prepared with 14-16" of soil composed with up to 50% bark mulch and 50% good soil. Add one cup of bone meal per plant.

Remove pots carefully and place the plants so that the soil level in the pot is at ground level. Grafted trees should have the graft just above ground, and roses must have the graft just below ground level (see next section). If planting during the growing season, water in the plant using liquid transplanter fertilizer.

Remember: The better you prepare the hole and plant the shrub, the better it will grow for you. If you plant it in 'poor soil' expect it to grow poorly. Also, if your shrub comes in a plastic, fiber or metal pot, the pot should be completely removed.

Roses

Follow the directions for Flowering Shrubs, however: be sure to plant the rose so that the branch union or 'crown' is just below the soil surface level and remove pots carefully as roots are soft.

Winter Protection: Mulch or soil should be mounded to a height of 12" to act as insulation to prevent freezing and thawing on the graft.

Roses continued...

