

SPRIT OF GARDENING

Planting Caliper + Potted Trees

WHEN TO PLANT TREES

Climate plays a deciding role when determining the appropriate planting time. Newly planted trees do best when exposed to moderate temperature and rainfall. They need time to root and acclimatize before the onset of intense heat and dryness of summer or the freezing temperatures of winter. Spring and fall, therefore, are generally the best planting seasons. In Calgary, however, tree planting can successfully be done from April to November.

PLANTING CALIPERS

Balled and burlapped (caliper) trees, although best planted as soon as possible, can be stored for some time after purchase as long as the ball is kept moist and the tree stored in a shady area. Caliper trees should always be lifted by the ball, never by the trunk. The burlap and basket surrounding the ball of earth should be pulled away from the trunk. Any string or twine should also be removed. Backfill soil (combinations of peat moss, composted manure, topsoil, etc.) is then placed in the hole surrounding the tree just to the height of the ball or slightly lower to allow for some settling. Be careful not to compress the back fill soil as this may prevent water from reaching the roots and the roots from expanding beyond the ball.

PLANTING CONTAINER TREES

Container trees can be stored for a brief period of time after purchase as long as the soil in the container is kept moist and the tree stored in a shady spot. In the case of metal or plastic containers, remove the container completely. In the case of fiber containers, tear the sides away.

Once carefully removed from the container, check the roots. If they are tightly compressed or 'potbound', use your fingers or a blunt instrument (to minimize root tearing) to carefully tease the fine roots away from the tight mass and then spread the roots prior to planting. If the roots are extremely tight it will greatly beneficial to soak the rootball to rehydrate the tree. In the case of extremely woody compacted roots, it may be necessary to use a spade to open up the bottom half of the root system. The root system is then pulled apart or 'butterflied' prior to planting. Loosening the root structure in this way is extremely important in the case of container plants. Failure to do so may result in the roots 'girdling' and killing the tree. To further assist this, lightly break up the soil outside the planting zone which will allow roots that quickly move out of the planting zone to be more resilient as they anchor into existing surrounding soil conditions.

Once the tree is seated in the hole, the original soil is back-filled into the hole to the level of the container. Again, remember not to overly compress the back-filled soil especially by tramping it with your feet. Compress gently using your hands instead. Using Myke for Trees and Shrubs, applied directly to the roots will help stimulate growth and get your tree off to a great start!

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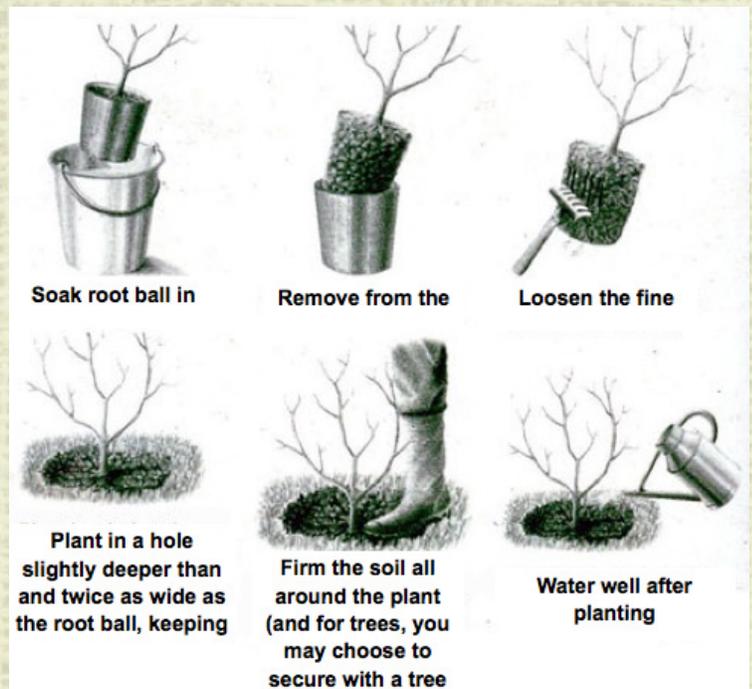
HOLE SIZES

Caliper Trees:

- 40 - 50 mm (32" root ball)
 - 35" across top, 24" across bottom, 24" deep
- 60 - 70 mm (36" root ball)
 - 40" across top, 24" across bottom, 31" deep
- 80, 90 - 100 mm (40" root ball)
 - 44-46" across top, 24" across bottom, 31" deep

Spruce Trees:

- 6-7 ft (32" root ball)
 - 35" across top, 24" across bottom, 24" deep
- 8-9 ft (36" root ball)
 - 44" across top, 24" across bottom, 31" deep
- 10-12 ft (40" root ball)
 - 44-46" across top, 24" across bottom, 30" deep



CALIPER TREES

DELIVERY CHARGES:

First Tree
\$125.00
Each Tree After
\$75.00
Extra-large Trees (80mm+ or 10ft+):
First Tree
\$175.00
Each Tree After
\$125.00

DELIVERY AND INSTALL CHARGES:

First Tree
\$250.00
Each Tree After
\$175.00
Extra-large Trees (80mm+ or 10ft+):
First Tree
\$275.00
Each Tree After
\$200.00

POTTED TREES & SHRUBS

DELIVERY CHARGES:

South Calgary (incl. Okotoks & DeWinton)
\$75.00
High River, Black Diamond, Turner Valley, Millarville
\$100.00
North Calgary (incl. Cochrane, Airdrie, Langdon)
\$100.00

INSTALLATION CHARGES:

1-3 Gallon - \$10.00 each
5-10 Gallon - \$25.00 each
15-25 Gallon - \$75.00 each