

HOW TO PLANT YOUR TREE



1. Proper Site Selection & Preparation

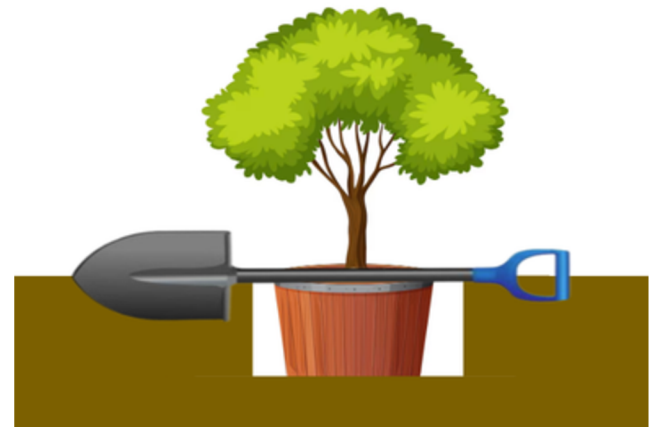
- Make sure a Dig Alert inspection has been performed in advance.
 - Dial 811 or (800) 422-8133 for more info.
- Keeping trees at least 10 feet away from your home supports fire safety.
- Choose a planting location that gets plenty of sunlight and is at least 15 feet from another tree.

2. Planting Techniques

- Dig a planting hole of the correct shape and size (width should be 2-3x the diameter of the container or root ball, and root flare should sit 1-2 inches above grade).
- Remove the nursery stake and container.
- Inspect the root ball.
- Lay the container on its side and gently slide it off the root ball. Loosen any tightly packed or circling roots by hand, and trim thick, woody roots if needed.
- Check that the hole is at the proper depth and width.
- Backfill with dirt:
 - Fill hole 1/3rd full with the original soil and gently pack it down until firm. Continue adding soil in layers, packing gently to remove air pockets, until the hole is filled to the level of the root flare.



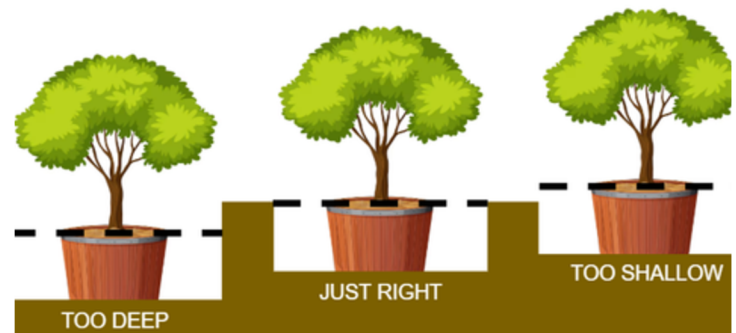
Measure the shovel against the pot and use the measure to decide how deep to dig the planting hole.



Use the shovel's handle for a final depth test before you fill in the hole.



The top of the root ball should sit about 1-2 inches higher than the surrounding soil surface.



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3. Building a Berm & Mulching

- To build a **berm**:
 - Pile loose soil 4-6 inches tall around the edge of the planting hole to create a large saucer to hold water.
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- **Mulching**:
 - Starting 2 inches away from the trunk of the tree, cover the entire basin with mulch to a depth of 3-4 inches to conserve moisture and reduce weed growth.



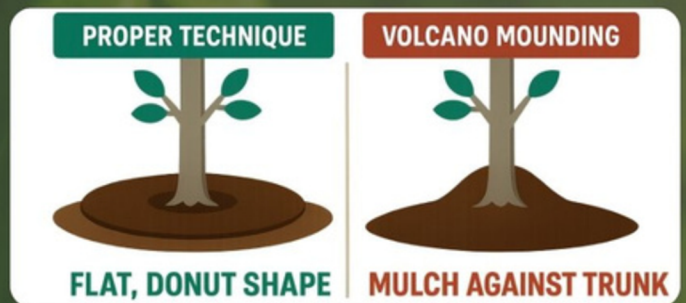
Mulch Donut



- Keep mulch 2 inches away from the trunk
- The root flare (where the trunk meets the roots) should be fully visible
- The mulch ring should extend to the drip line—about 2–3 feet for young trees and 4–6 feet for older trees.
- 3-4 inches deep



Mulch Volcano



A Note About Watering

- Apply 5-10 gallons of water per week for every inch of trunk diameter, measured at the soil line.
- Provide extra water during heat waves and during Santa Ana winds.