

## Fruit Tree Planting Guidance

If you are not planting your trees immediately, store them in a cool, dry location and make sure the roots do not dry out by keeping them wrapped in a bag and spraying with water if necessary. Approximately an hour before planting stand the trees in a bucket of water to give them a good soak.

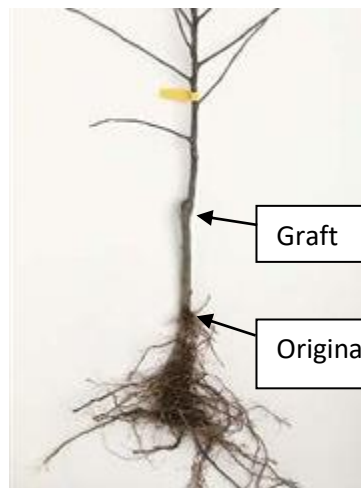
1. Dig a planting hole approximately 40cm x 40cm x 30cm deep, which should comfortably accommodate the roots. If you have a fork, fork the bottom and the sides of the hole to improve drainage and allow the roots to spread outwards.



2. Hammer 2 stakes into the ground leaving space to accommodate your tree in between (roughly 15-20cm apart). Ideally place the stakes in line with the direction of the wind (normally West/South Westerly). Then rest the tree between the 2 stakes.

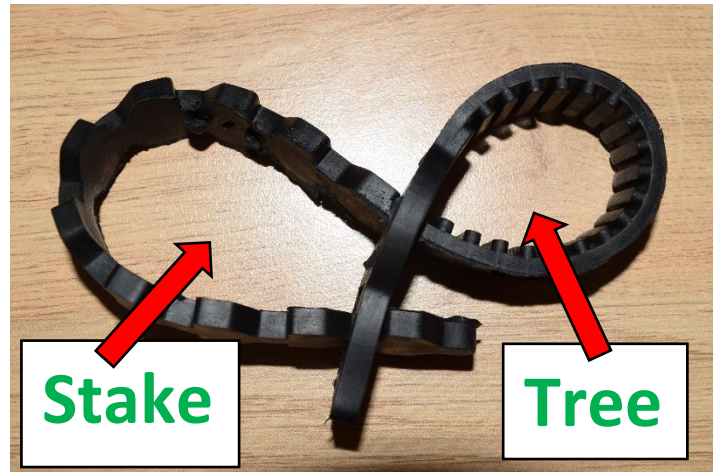
3. Firm the soil around the roots as you backfill the hole. Bring the soil level up to the original soil level on the tree.

NB: Don't get confused with the graft on the tree – this is where the fruit variety has been grafted onto a different root stock. The purpose of grafting is to combine one plant's qualities of flowering or fruiting with the roots of another that offers vigour and resilience.





4. Attach the rubber ties. These are figure-of-eight ties. The ribbed edge should go round the tree and does not need to be completely tight to the bark. The length is adjustable using the stake side.



5. Wrap the metal guard around the tree and join the ends using cable ties. Attach the guard to the stakes (if possible) using 2 more cable ties.

Thank you and have fun!