

TREE PLANTING CHECKLIST



COMMON VISION
GROW. LEARN. HEAL.

<https://www.commonvision.org/>

Name: _____

Date: _____

Getting Ready:

- Do you have an adult helper to work with?
- Have you cleared the area of weeds & unwanted plants?
- The day before the planting, water the spot where you will dig the hole.
This will help the ground be softer when you have to dig later. If it's been raining a lot recently you can skip this step.
- Did you gather your materials?
 - Tools (shovel, pickaxe)
 - Tree
 - Compost
 - Mulch (if you have it)

Let's Plant a Tree!

- Dig your planting hole. The hole should be twice as wide as the tree is in the pot, and equally as deep.
- Gently remove the tree from the pot.
- "Tickle" the roots, to break up the root ball so the roots don't grow in a circle after you plant the tree.
- Place the tree in the hole.

Doublecheck before filling in the soil:

- Is the tree at the proper height before burying it? Identify the crown of the tree, and make sure it is not too low. Add soil beneath if necessary.

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- Look at how the branches grow and the shape of the space, and orient the tree the way you think it makes sense, by turning it in the hole if needed.
- Is the tree standing straight in the hole? Get a helper to look at it and help you make sure it is upright when you bury it.

Time to Finish Planting!

- Fill in the hole gently, first using the soil you dug out (*called the native soil*).
- For the top few inches of soil, mix in compost about half and half, with the native soil.
- Optional: build a berm around the tree, to hold in water. You can use extra soil, clods of clay, and/or stones. This will help the water to soak in to the roots and not run off.
- Remove any stakes and tight ties. The tree should stand upright on its own.
- Water the tree! 8-10 gallons immediately after planting.

After the planting:

- Water your new tree with about 8-10 gallons at least once a week while it is getting established.
- Keep an eye out for your tree. Yellowing leaves, or wilted leaves means it needs some attention! Ask for help if needed.
- Occasionally feed it with compost (at least once a year).
- Track its growth! If you follow all these steps, you will enjoy seeing your tree grow over the years!



GREAT JOB PLANTING A TREE!

