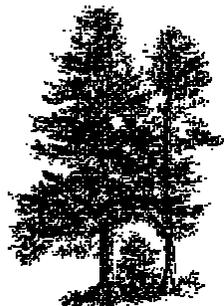


How to plant a tree seedling indoors? (If weather does not allow outside planting):

- Place seedling in a container that is at least 6 inches deep and has several drainage holes.
- Pack the soil around seedling, completely covering the root collar.
- Water well after planting and place seedling in a bright room; direct sunlight is best.
- Keep moist by watering as needed and transplant outside when weather permits.

How to plant a 5 to 6 feet tall tree:

- Select a site with enough room for roots and branches to reach full size. Avoid overhead and underground utilities.
- Prepare a planting area as deep as the root ball and three to five times its diameter by loosening the soil. Dig a hole in the middle of the area and set the root ball even with the ground level.
- To prepare the planting area introduce new soil to the area if local soil is not good. Dig 2 to 3 feet deep and 1 to 2 feet wide hole and fill it with new soil.
- Mix the loose soil with the manure and water it for 4 to 5 days.
- Use water to settle soil and remove air pockets in planting area.
- Stake the tree to flex with the wind only if tree is unable to stand up to wind.
- Spread a two to three inch layer of mulch if available (wood chips) on entire area, but not within six inches of tree trunk.

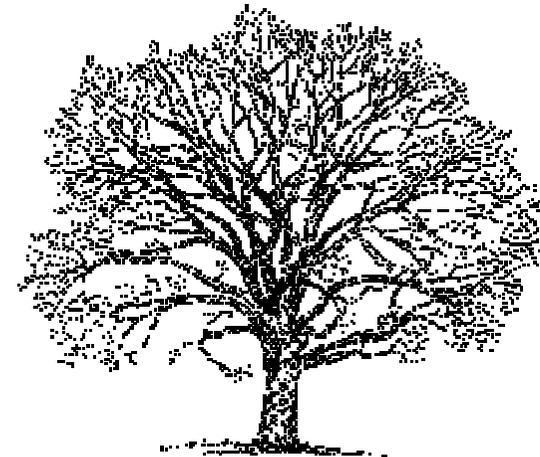


Hidaya Foundation

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Why Plant Trees?



What does the Qur'an say about Trees?

"And the herbs and the trees do prostrate (to Allah)."

(Surah Ar-Rahman, Verse 06)

What does the hadees say about planting Trees?

The Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him) said, "If any Muslim plants any plant and a human being or an animal eats of it, he will be rewarded as if he had given that much in charity."

(Sahih Bukhari Vol. 8, Book 73, Number 41)

What are the benefits of Trees?

Planting a tree can have tremendous influences on communities. Tree planting improves our environment. Planting a tree can add to our incomes and decrease energy costs. To plant a tree can enhance our quality of life and improve our health.

- Trees produce oxygen:
A mature leafy tree produces as much oxygen in a season as 10 people inhale in a year.
- Trees clean the air:
Trees help cleanse the air by intercepting airborne particles, reducing heat, and absorbing such pollutants as carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, and nitrogen dioxide. Trees remove this air pollution by lowering air temperature, through respiration, and by retaining particulates.
- Trees make effective sound barriers:
Trees muffle urban noise almost as effectively as stone walls. Trees, planted at strategic points in a neighborhood or around your house, can abate major noises from roads and airports.
- Trees become "carbon sinks":
To produce its food, a tree absorbs and locks away carbon dioxide, a global warming suspect. An urban forest is a carbon storage area that can lock up as much carbon as it produces.
- Trees shade and cool:
Shade from trees reduces the need for air conditioning in summer. In winter, trees break the force of winter winds, lowering heating costs. Studies have shown that parts of cities without cooling shade from trees can literally be "heat islands," with temperatures as much as 12 degrees Fahrenheit higher than surrounding areas.

- Trees act as windbreaks:
During windy and cold seasons, trees act as windbreaks. A windbreak can lower home heating bills up to 30%. A reduction in wind can also reduce the drying effect on other vegetation behind the windbreak.
- Trees fight soil erosion and reduce the risk of Flash Flooding:
Trees fight soil erosion, conserve rainwater, and reduce water runoff and sediment deposit after storms and floods.
- Trees increase property values:
Real estate values increase when trees beautify a property or neighborhood. Trees can increase the property value of your home by 15% or more.
- Trees help reclaim land:
Land which contains heavy metals and other contaminants can be planted with trees, which absorb pollutants and reduce their levels in the future as the timber is harvested.
- Wildlife:
Trees give sanctuary to wildlife making it possible for them to flourish and balance the eco system.
- Economic Improvement:
Timber which has become very expensive can improve the economic condition of people.

How to Plant a Tree Seedling?

- Plant your seedling as soon as possible - in cooler climates, before it gets very hot. If it's still very cold or hot, then plant your tree indoors and transplant it once the chance of frost or extreme heat is over.
- Prepare a planting area where the seedling will have adequate space to grow into a full sized tree both above and below the ground. (Avoid overhead and underground utilities)
- To prepare the planting area introduce new soil to the area if local soil is not good. Dig 2 to 3 feet deep and 1 to 2 feet wide hole and fill it with new soil.
- Mix the loose soil with the manure and water it for 4 to 5 days.
- Place the root collar (the place where the roots join the stem) at soil level.
- Settle soil with water to avoid air space.
- Protect seedling from damage caused by feet, lawnmowers, pets, etc.