
How to Plant a Tree | A Volunteer Guide

Thank you for joining a Dream for Trees planting day. Here's how to plant a Miyawaki mini forest.

PICK UP A SAPLING

Hold it above the root ball at the bottom of the stalk. Separate it from the rest carefully, the roots are delicate.

WORK AS A TEAM

Plant in pairs or threes and share out the jobs, one person digs, one plants, one adds the tree guard and cane. Working in a chain is the quickest way to plant a mini forest.

DIG IN

Use a tree-planting spade to cut a notch in either a V, L or T shape. The spades are heavy, be body aware and don't strain. Don't go deeper than the roots are long. Lever the ground open with the spade a ready for the sapling.

PLANT!

Gently push the roots down into the notch as far as they'll go. It's easiest to use your hands. Before removing the spade pull out the sapling slightly to spread out the roots. The stalk should leave the ground where its colour changes above the root ball.

HEEL IT IN

Use your heel to push the earth back and around the sapling. Be firm and leave no air pockets. Air pockets fill with rain and can then freeze, rotting roots not surrounded by soil. Add the guard and cane, ask a Dream For Trees steward if you need guidance here.



