

How to Plant a Tree | A Youth 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 roots 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. This way of working is called a chain, and is the quickest way to plant a mini forest.

DIG IN

With an adult, use a tree-planting spade to cut a notch in either a V, L or T shape. Aim to roughly cut as deep as the roots are long. Lever the ground open with the spade 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 and fine to wear gloves. Before removing the spade pull out the sapling slightly to spread out the roots. The stalk should leave the ground where the colour changes above the roots.

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. Need help here? Ask an adult to show you how.

