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## GRAB YOUR TOOLS

- Sapling
- Shovel
- Mulch
- Gardening or work gloves
- A large bucket(s) for dirt
- Two wooden stakes (about half the height of your sapling)
- Something to hammer stakes into ground (e.g. fence post driver or hammer)
- Metal wire mesh for tree caging
- Metal cutting pliers
- Rope or cord

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## PLOT A SPOT & UNPOT

Pick the perfect spot for your tree and mark it. Make sure your location is far enough away from buildings, sidewalks, wires, power lines, and other infrastructure to allow it to grow to its full size.

We recommend you call Miss Utility to have your utility lines marked before you begin digging.



3

## DIG A HOLE

Dig a hole about the height of the mass of soil containing the tree roots and about 2 times as wide. You may want to put your tree in the hole periodically and add soil or dig more as necessary.





4

## BREAK UP THE ROOT BALL

Use your hands and shovel to massage and loosen the roots. Make sure to trim any roots that circle around the base of the plant.

5

## PLACE YOUR PLANT

Put your tree in the center of the hole and use the soil you dug up to fill in the area around your tree. You can pack the soil a little. Make sure to leave the top of the roots (where they connect to the trunk) unburied so they are level with the top of the filled hole.



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## CHECK YOUR WORK

Take a second to ensure that your tree is completely straight and in the right place.



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## MULCH IT

Add mulch around your tree starting 2-3 inches from the trunk. We recommend a thickness of 2-3 inches of mulch.





8

## THE CAGE STAGE

Put your metal mesh caging around the circumference of your filled hole and cut it to size. Then you can bend a few wire ends to secure the caging to itself.

9

## STAKE IT

Drive two stakes, one on each side of the tree, into the ground right outside the metal caging. Make sure they are straight. You should always wear a hard hat while using a driver/ stake pounder.



10

## SECURE IT

Use some type of rope or cord to tie your tree to each stake about 4 feet from the ground. Make sure the tension is even in both sides so that your tree remains straight.

11

## WATER AND ADMIRE YOUR WORK

Give your tree plenty of water and give yourself a pat on the back. Continue to water once a week unless there is heavy rain.

