

**Melka**  
LANDSCAPING &  
GARDEN CENTER

# TREE INSTALL INSTRUCTIONS

**STEP  
1**

**DIGGING THE HOLE:** Dig the hole twice as wide as the root ball or container that the plant is in. Make sure the hole is deep enough to leave approximately 2-3" of the root ball above the soil level. This will account for natural settling of the ground.

**STEP  
2**

**SOIL PREPARATION** Next, create a mixture of 1/3rd existing soil, 1/3rd new topsoil, and 1/3rd compost and backfill around the plants. In a very waterlogged and clay filled hole, use 1/2 new soil and 1/2 compost. Then tamp the bottom of the hole to create a flat surface and center the root ball in the hole, remembering the planting height in Step 1.

*Ensuring your plants are grown in good soil is extremely important for their success.*

**STEP  
3**

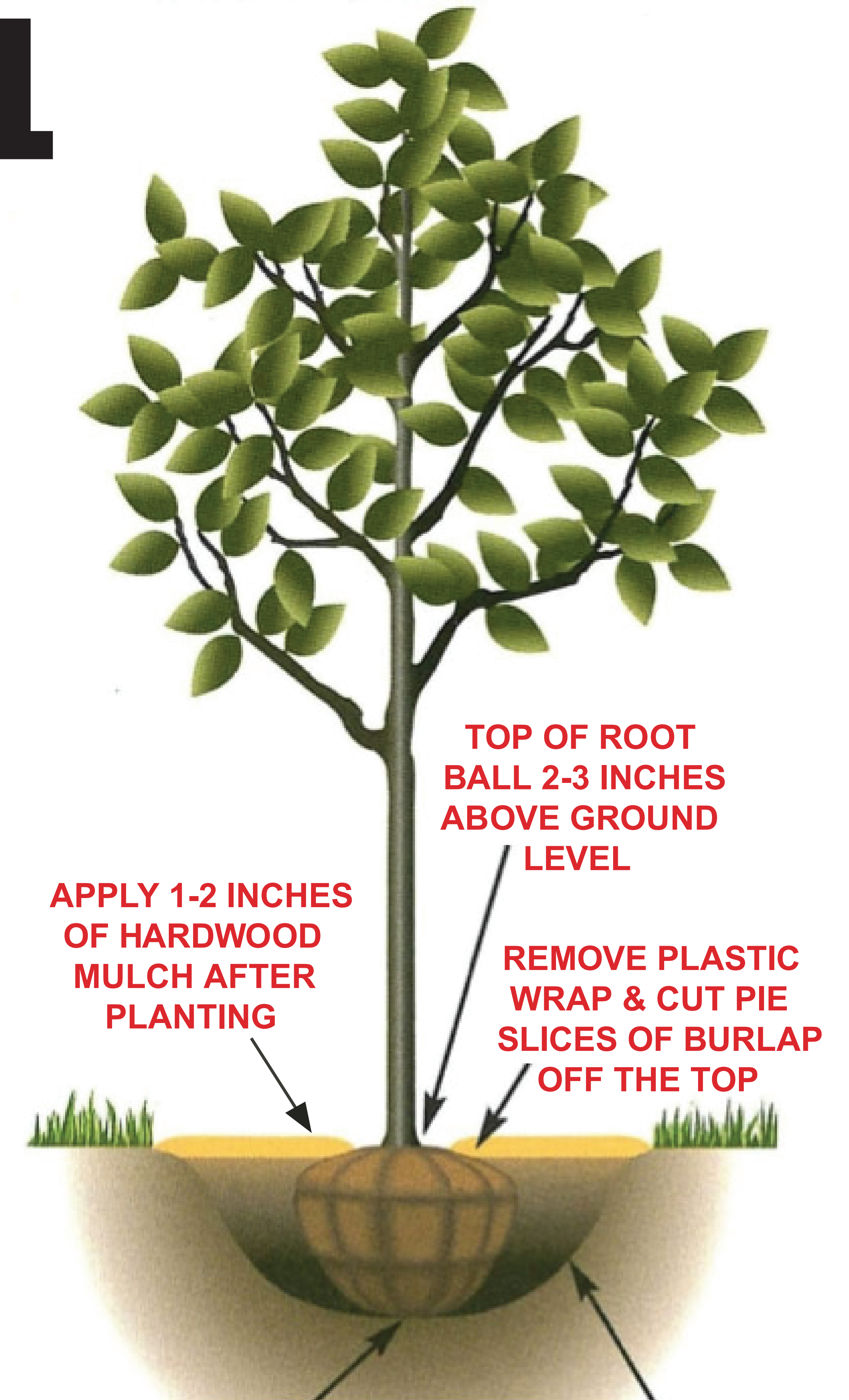
**INSTALLATION** When planting a ball & burlap tree, DO NOT remove the string or wire basket. Always remove the plastic wrapping and cut pie shaped slices into the burlap at the top of the root ball. For container plants, cut the container from around the root ball and plant the entire soil mass in the hole. As you begin the backfill process step down the soil on the sides of the root ball to ensure good structure. Remember to cover the top of the root ball with the new soil mixture creating a slight mound.

*AFTER 90 DAYS, remove the rotted string from around the trunk/base of the tree.*

**STEP  
4**

**FERTILIZING & MULCHING** Add Granular Tree & Shrub Fertilizer in each hole (1/3rd cup per tree). The last step is to spread 1-2" of Hardwood Mulch on the top of each plant. Do not apply mulch around the main trunk or create a thick, volcano shaped mound as this will cause the plant to become overwatered. Mulch rings in the lawn should be at least 4' in diameter to prevent injury from lawn mowers.

*Remember to install a TREE WATERING BAG around your tree for easy care and fertilize 1-2 times per year in perpetuity.*



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DISCLAIMER: This guide will ensure the success of your plantings, but it is not a guarantee, as factors out of anyone's control can create problems following installation.

