Live Tree Care

Keep your Christmas Memories Growing for many years to come!

Using a live tree as an indoor Christmas tree is a wonderful way for you to enjoy the holiday season all year long. Before purchasing your Christmas tree, though, you should consider that a living tree requires special care and handling.

BEFORE THE HOLIDAYS

Before Christmas, store your evergreen outdoors in a shady area protected from harsh winter elements. Give it a day or two in a cool garage before moving it into your home to decorate.

INDOORS

Ideally, your Christmas tree should be brought inside a few days before Christmas, then removed a few days afterwards. By limiting the length of time the tree spends indoors to no longer than 7 days you greatly reduce the stress the tree suffers. When moving the tree back outdoors, acclimate the tree for two days in a cold garage before planting. When trimming the tree use a limited number of miniature lights to prevent excessive heat which may dry out the needles. As long as your live Christmas tree is indoors, check the soil and water thoroughly when necessary.

OUTDOORS

If your tree is placed outdoors in a decorative container for the holiday season, check the soil and water as needed. After the holidays remove the tree from the container and plant in the ground as described below.

PLANTING

The hole the tree will be planted in should be dug before the ground freezes. We suggest that this is done before December 1st. Line the hole with straw, then store the dug up soil in an enclosed area, such as a garage, to keep from freezing solid.

If you are unable to plant your tree after the holidays, please move the tree to an unheated garage or porch. Check periodically and water as needed to prevent the soil from drying out. You can also store your tree outside in an area protected from the wind. In this case, you should soak the soil mass thoroughly with water and then mulch the container with bark mulch or wood chips.

Please follow the planting instructions as described in our Planting Guide available on our website. We also suggest planting with **Sphagnum Peat** and **Root n' Grow** to help insure success. The tree should also be mulched using bark or wood chips.

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