

How to plant whips and hedges



In order to plant your tree you will need: a spade, a rabbit guard, a cane and some mulch.

Make sure the roots of the tree do not dry out. If it needs to be stored for a couple of days it can be left in the plastic bag in a cool place. If you need to store it for longer you should heel it in by covering the roots with soil.



Dig a hole large enough for the roots to spread out evenly. (About 1/3 bigger than the size of the roots.)



Backfill with soil, gently shake the tree up and down to work the soil around the roots firm around the tree in stages by treading with the heel.



Firmly press a bamboo cane into the ground next to the base of the tree. Starting from the bottom of the tree wrap the guard around the tree and cane making sure there are no gaps in the guard.



Finish off with some mulch to limit the weed growth at the base of the tree and you are ready to enjoy watching it grow.

Hedge Planting



You would plant the whips for a hedge in the same way as you would any other whip (see Planting whips above) but the spacing is important. It is normal to plant a double row with 4 plants to the meter (yard). You should leave a gap of 50cm (18 inches) between the trees in the same row and 40-45cm (16 inches) between the two parallel rows in a zigzag as shown above. If there is only room for one row plant 30cm (12 inches) apart.

By measuring and ordering in yards, you will have the same amount of plants as if you measure and order in meters (4 to the yard or meter) but the spacing will be marginally closer when planted. If you want to convert yards to metres multiply by 0.9

Selecting a natural mixed hedge

Natural mixed hedges are mainly made up of Hawthorn and a selection from the following 14 species.

Alder Buckthorn/Rhamnus Frangula

Blackthorn/Prunus Spinosa

Crab Apple/Malus Sylvestris

Dog Rose/Cornus Sanguinea

Elder/Sambucus Nigra

Goat Willow/Salix Caprea

Field Maple/Acer Campestre

Guelder Rose/Viburnum Opulus

Hazel/Corylus Avellana

Spindle/Euronymus Europeus

Wayfarer/Viburnum Lantana

Wild Privet/Ligustrum Vulgare