

Caring for your Trees/Hedging plants from Greenham Trust

Your tree will be delivered as a 'bare root' tree meaning it will not be in a pot. The trees will be in a black bag to protect the roots from drying out.

The trees need to be planted as soon as possible (preferably within 2 days of delivery or collection) but if that's not practical then remove them from the bag and 'heel' the tree in some soft garden soil or a large pot ensuring the roots are covered.

How to 'heel in'

- Dig a narrow trench, ideally in a shady position in an area where the soil is loose and not compacted.
- The trench will need to be roughly 30cm deep or deep enough to cover the entire root system.
- Dig the trench so that one side is sloping at approx a 45 degree angle
- Keep the trees in their bundles and put them in the trench tight against each other. Lean them against the slope so the stems are resting on the slope and the roots are fully covered.
- Cover the roots in soil making sure you firm the soil really well around the roots so water can't pool in any air gaps.

If you don't have space for a trench you can store the trees in pots or even bags of compost. Just make sure the roots are fully covered and the soil around them is firm to avoid air pockets. You can store trees like this throughout winter if needed. They will need to be planted in their final position before spring as they will come out of dormancy and roots may be damaged when moving.

If you need advice and guidance about how to plant and care for your trees, there are lots of very helpful websites packed full of information such as this one on the Woodland Trust website here: <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/plant-trees/advice/>

Enjoy your beautiful tree from Greenham Trust's Planting Project supported by Growing2gether.