

PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS

You have made an investment in a good plant. Now make sure you give it the best possible chance to grow. Follow the rules to ensure success... all the better to take root in your garden.

How to prepare the hole:



Most root systems live in the top 6 inches of soil, which is full of microscopic organisms essential for healthy plant development. That's why it is important to dig a WIDE hole, so the roots can naturally spread sideways. Have organic soil on hand to mix with the earth from the hole because roots will spread into soil that is rich in nutrients.



- 1) Prepare a hole 2 times the width of the root ball, and 6 inches deeper than its height.
- 2) Mix the removed soil with organic matter or very rich top soil, 1 part organic to 2 parts removed soil. Throw a few handfuls in the bottom of the hole, along with a small hand full of bone meal.
- 3) Set the plant in, add soil until the top of the root ball is just above the level of the ground. Tamp soil gently but firmly and make sure the top of the root ball is NOT BELOW the ground level.
- 4) Straighten up and pat yourself on the shoulder - you have done it right!



The most important ingredient in your garden is the structure of its soil. It is a living environment, constantly changing and evolving, providing food for your plants as well as supporting their roots.



Earthworms are nature's best fertilizer producers. Their castings are much richer in minerals than the soil they ingest. They aerate your garden and spread nutrients evenly throughout the soil. One worm per cubic foot produces one-third pound top-grade fertilizer each year. The more worms, the better your garden!

Organic materials provide the basic matter for the beneficial microbes to thrive, and to produce the mix of nutrients plants love. This includes peat, manure and compost. The more organic materials in the soil structure, the better your plants will do. Add a little compost to your garden every year.