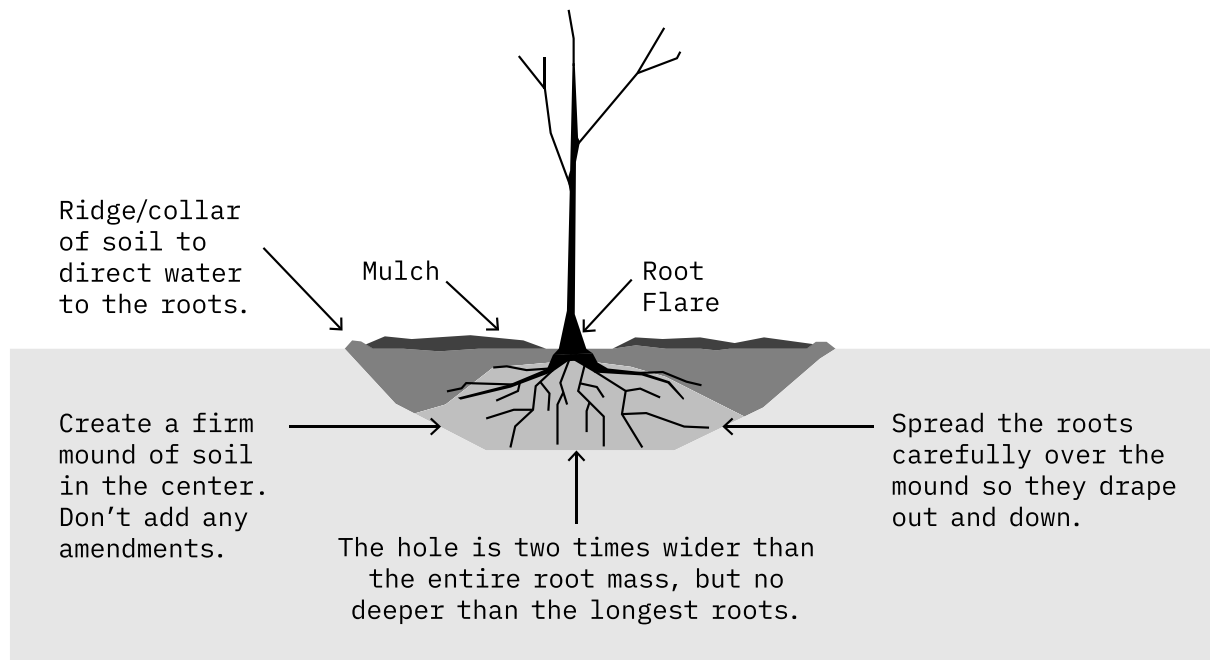


Planting Bare Root Trees

A strong start for healthy growth.

Digging the hole.

- Soak the roots in a bucket of water overnight.
- Dig the holes wide and shallow.
- Do not loosen the soil beneath the roots. Do not amend the soil in the hole.
- If you are planting in heavy soils, make the hole even wider and be sure to loosen up the side walls so the roots can penetrate them.
- The hole should be no deeper than the longest roots at the bottom.
- The hole should be 2 times wider than the entire root mass.
- Once planted, the **root flare** should be at or a little above the soil level.
- Once you have an appropriate size hole, create a firm mound or cone of soil in the center.



Planting your tree.

- Spread the roots carefully over this mound so they are draping out and down.
- Position the plant in the hole so it is correctly aligned and upright.
- Begin backfilling. Take your time, making sure to tamp down the soil around the roots to eliminate any air pockets.
- Once backfill is complete, check your level and alignment. If too low or not straight, correct this.
- Create a soil "collar" at the perimeter of the planting hole to ensure water goes into the roots and does not run off when watering.
- Water thoroughly.
- Mulch each planting bed making sure to keep the mulch at least one inch away from the base of the plant.