



One Planet Matters

Preparing and Planting your Orchard

One Planet Matters will provide you with native broadleaf fruit trees to create your orchard. We just ask that you prepare the soil for your trees before we arrive with them. Here is a simple guide explaining what to do. Please complete steps 1 & 2 before we arrive, and the rest we will go through with you!

1 - Decide how you want to position your trees

Traditionally, orchards are planted with the trees in rows, however you may decide to plant your trees in curves, or even in a cluster.

Just make sure that you:

- Dig holes for your trees where they will get sufficient sunlight and soil depth, and where they aren't too close to other trees or large shrubs.
- Space your trees far enough apart so that they do not compete with each other for root or canopy growth. A good guide is to leave 10-12ft between trees.



2 - Dig a hole which is just a bit bigger than the root system

You don't want to dig the hole too deep. You will see a notch just above the roots on the trunk of the tree - this is where the fruit tree has been grafted. Make sure that just the roots sit in the hole and that the tree trunk is above ground. Have a look at this video where our tree expert Rob explains this in more detail.



3 - Plant the tree & fill the hole back up

Using the soil that you dug out, fill the hole back up to cover the root system. If you have clay soil, do not fill the hole back up using the soil you dug out - fill it up using compost and soil mix ($\frac{1}{4}$ soil and $\frac{3}{4}$ compost). For even better results you can also spread a rooting powder such as rootgrow mycorrhizal powder (RHA recommended).



4 - Add a stake and firm down the soil

Place a stake in the ground and press the soil in around the tree and the stake with your hands. Don't stamp on it as this will compact the soil too much - gently pressing the soil down is perfect. Then hammer down the stake until it is firmly in the ground.



5 - Mulch around the tree

Using a good compost or manure, mulch around the tree. Mulch is important for young trees for a few reasons:

- Keeps moisture in the soil
- Feeds the tree with nutrients
- Keeps weeds down in order to reduce competition while the tree is young

