



STAVANGER KOMMUNE



A step-by-step guide to planting a tree

Områdeløft Storhaug

PLANTING TREES

How to plant a tree?

A new tree needs good growing conditions. The tree will give more pleasure if it grows well. Passers-by, neighbours as well as insects and birds will benefit from Storhaug becoming greener. This guide will help you with planting the tree.

CHOOSE THE RIGHT SPOT TO PLANT THE TREE:

- Find a good place to plant the tree. The tree needs room to grow and enough light. Consider the physical surroundings like windows, doors and verandas. Make sure the tree will be planted far enough away from neighbouring properties, driveways and walls.
- The tree must not stand too close to your property's border. According to the neighbour law, the distance to the neighbouring property must be a third of the tree's height when fully grown. For example, if a tree can be expected to grow 9 metres tall, it has to be planted at least 3 metres from your property's border. Fruit trees can be expected to grow to 5-10 metres, whilst other deciduous trees can be 10-15 metres tall when fully grown.

PREPARE THE HOLE FOR PLANTING:

- Dig a planting hole at least twice as wide as the width of the root ball.
- Don't dig deeper than the depth of the root ball.
- Plant as quickly as possible after receiving the tree.
- The soil in the planting hole should be wetted before planting the tree to help the roots establish quickly. Also, let the root ball soak in a bucket of water for an hour before planting.



PLANTING:

- Remove any packing materials (netting) from around the root ball.
- Adjust the tree's position in the hole so that it stands vertically.
- Place the tree in the hole and backfill with the soil from the planting hole. You can mix a little compost with the soil. Fill the planting hole carefully, so that the soil is spread throughout the roots and there are no air pockets.
- Do not plant the tree too deep – the root collar, where the trunk joins the roots, should be visible.
- Tread down the soil around the tree.
- Water well after planting.



SUPPORT:

- The tree needs staking for support for the first three years so that the roots can establish and the tree doesn't fall over.
- Place one-two stakes 15cm from the tree's stem.
- The stakes should be set about a third of the stake's total length in the ground. Take care not to damage the root system.
- Bind the tree to the stakes. Use jute band or tree ties.
- Make sure to adjust the band so that it doesn't chafe the tree as it grows.



MAINTENANCE:

- In the spring, the soil around the planting hole can be fertilized.
- A 10cm layer of bark around the tree helps to keep the soil damp and limits the growth of weeds.
- In dry periods the tree should be watered, especially while it is young.
- Dry (dead) branches and twigs and branches that cross and come into contact with each other can be removed. Always cut back to a healthy joint (node).
- Check the band around the stem/trunk regularly so that it doesn't cut into the bark.
- Pruning should be done in the summer when the tree can best tolerate it.

