

# Live Christmas Tree Care

Before choosing a live tree, make sure you have room to plant it in your landscape. Most conifers get quite large, 90 feet or so, and they also require a very sunny place. Another consideration is that the tree can remain indoors only for 5 to 7 days. If this does not work for you, consider a cut or artificial tree.

Once you purchase your live tree, water it well and place in a partly sunny spot. If desired, you can spray the plant with an anti-transpirant. This helps prevent moisture loss from the needles. We also recommend that you prepare the planting site before the ground freezes. Dig your hole twice the width of the root ball and at the same depth. Cover the hole with a board or something to prevent accidents.

Make sure that you have a waterproof container in which to place your tree. Try to keep it away from any heat sources. And remember, keep it indoors only for a week. Any longer and it will break dormancy and not be winter hardy. Be sure to maintain an inch or two of water in your container.

When you are ready to plant the tree, place some of the loosened soil back in the hole such that when you place your tree in the hole, 1/4 of the root ball is above ground. Roll back the burlap if the root ball is wrapped in burlap. If your tree is in a bushel basket, you may plant it basket and all. The basket will decompose quickly in the soil. If your tree is in a plastic container, simply remove the container. Now fill in around the sides with your loose soil and a little on the top. Mulch if desired. Water well.

**ENJOY YOUR TREE  
AND HAVE A VERY  
MERRY  
CHRISTMAS!**



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