## How to Keep Cut Trees Fresh



## It starts with a fresh cut, Then you water it...and keep watering it...\*

Make a fresh cut: This opens up the tree's vascular system and allow the tree to continue to pull moisture up into its foliage. If you do not make a fresh cut, the tree will not be able to take up water.

**Put it in water with preservative:** Immediately (within 1/2 an hour) after you make a fresh cut, you will want to put the tree outside in a bucket of water that has preservative added to it. Luke warm water is taken up more readily than cold water. Be careful to keep the tree out of the sun, wind and freezing temperatures. Keep it in a cool protected area to reduce moisture loss.

**5** <u>Clean the stand</u>: Mix a capful of bleach with one cup of water and clean your stand's reservoir. This will reduce any micro-organisms that can block the tree's ability to absorb water.

**4** <u>Keep it moist:</u> After putting the tree in the stand, it is essential you keep water in the stand. To keep the tree fresher longer, be sure to add preservative to the water each time. An average tree may consume between two pints and one gallon of water per day. Never let the tree go dry. If the water level drops below the butt of the tree a seal will form and the tree will be unable to take up water. A stand with a large basin will need less refilling.

COOL TIP: done by Sunset magatrees that had a comadded to the water flame resistant than ter or homemade preservatives!

**5** <u>Keep it cool:</u> It is best to use cool burning lights on your tree. Turn off the lights when leaving the house or retiring for the night. It is very important to keep your tree away from heat sources such as heater vents, fireplaces, wood or pellet stoves, fireplace inserts, television sets, and sunny windows. Turn down the room heat at night.

**O** <u>Remove the tree promptly:</u> Remove the tree <u>before</u> it dries out. Never burn any part of a Christmas tree in a wood stove or fireplace.

\*...and keep watering it!



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