

Care for Living Christmas Trees

Preparation: Keep the tree well watered before bringing it in the house.

Placement: Situate your tree where it is at least 10 feet from a wood-stove or fireplace. Do not set it where heat from your furnace duct will blow directly on it and avoid placing it in a sunny window.

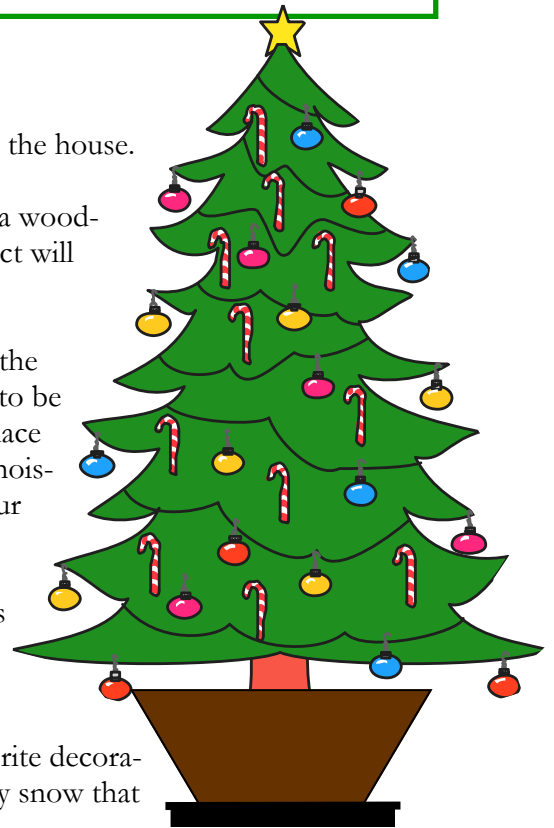
Watering: Keep the root ball of the tree moist while it is in the house. **THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT!!!** Check the tree daily to be sure the soil is not dry. An easy and efficient way to water is to place ice cubes on top of the soil. As they melt, they will supply even moisture. A vinyl saucer or plastic sheet under the tree will protect your floor or carpeting.

How Long: Living Christmas trees can be safely kept indoors up to 7 days. It is *IMPORTANT* not to exceed this time limit without affecting the survivability of your tree.

Ornaments: Feel free to dress your living tree with your favorite decorations. Lights should be the small miniature type. Do not use spray snow that adheres to the branches.

Remove the tree promptly: After Christmas, set the tree in an unheated garage, carport, covered deck, or other shady protected location for at least a week to allow it to readjust to cold weather. Hose it off and keep it watered during this period. Be sure to remove the plastic wrap or saucer to allow for drainage.

Planting: Dig the hole at least twice as wide and twice as deep as the depth of the container. Refill the bottom of the hole with a mixture of 1 part mulch and 2 parts soil. Very carefully remove the tree from the pot and gently lower it into the hole. Set the top of the root ball even with the surrounding grade and build a good basin to hold water. After planting, if there is twine around the base of the trunk, cut it and remove it. Leave any burlap intact as it will rot away. On large trees use stakes and guy wires to anchor against snow and high winds. For more specific information on planting, see our information sheets titled "How to Plant Container Plants" and "How to Plant Balled and Burlapped Trees".



Note: We are not able to guarantee growth or survival of trees after they have been placed indoors.

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