

Essentials of Effective & Intelligent Wiring

- ✂ **Plan your wiring (“*wire mapping*”)** - study the tree, bending direction, structural v. secondary, connecting branches
- ✂ **Prepping your tree** - prune vertical/downward growth*, clear first 1/8” – ¼” on each branch, crotches, identify alternating branch structure
- ✂ **Function v. Aesthetics**
- ✂ **Styling v. Health**
- ✂ **Structural** (trunk & primary branch) - wire parallel to branch
- ✂ **Secondary & Tertiary** (pad design) – wire towards you
- ✂ **12–3-6- 9 (clock) / “*push-pull*”** (thicker wire)
- ✂ **Anchor 1½ - 2 Turns** (single wire) structural and secondary)
- ✂ **Supporting hand v. Wiring hand** (dominant hand)
- ✂ **3 Point Contact** (supporting hand)
- ✂ **Full Contact** – No gaps between the branch and wire
- ✂ **55°-60° Angle Wrap** – use thumb and finger to help with spacing
- ✂ **Even Spacing**
- ✂ **No more than 3 wires in any location**
- ✂ **Wire ahead** (provides leverage and helps maintain wiring angle and branch contact)
- ✂ **Twist/roll the wire** (using thumb/finger of wiring hand)
- ✂ **Wire thickness 1/3 width of Branch (Aluminum) / ¼ width Copper or sufficient to move branch without wire bending. “*when in doubt, go bigger*”**
- ✂ **Wire Bottom to Top / trunk outward to end of branch**
- ✂ **“Over the Shoulder”** (start underneath branch) v. **“Armpit”** (start on top) “*consider function*”
- ✂ **Protect /support branch collar** (secondary / tertiary branches)
- ✂ **2 Branch Rule** (paring combinations / similar thickness and vicinity)
- ✂ **Opposing rotation** (2 branches (clockwise/counterclockwise)
- ✂ **“Follow the leader”** (double wiring)
- ✂ **Bending v. Coiling**
- ✂ **Wire entire tree before styling /setting pads**
- ✂ **Add minimum 1/3 length of wire to branch length**
- ✂ **Avoid crossing wires**
- ✂ **Single thicker wire is stronger than 2 smaller wires** (heavy bends)
- ✂ **Protect bark**
- ✂ **Be conscious of arm/body contact so as not to damage branches/foilage**
- ✂ **Close end of wire “under and up” to control and support the branch tip/foilage**
- ✂ **Practice, Practice, Practice – ‘*Perfect Practice Makes Perfect*’**