

Care Tips for Your Live Tree

How to Care for Your Farm-Grown Christmas Tree with Roots

1. Keep in mind that Living Trees are VERY heavy and bulky. A six foot tall balled and burlapped (B&B) tree will weigh as much as 250 pounds.
2. The tree should be stored in an unheated, sheltered area such as a garage or porch, out of the wind and sun. Do not expose the tree to freezing temperatures at any time.
3. The tree will need adequate water. The root ball or soil should be kept slightly damp but not flooded. Wrap the root ball of a balled tree in plastic or place in a tub while it is in the house.
4. Live trees may be decorated, but with care. If lights are used, they must not give off any heat.
5. Do not remove the tree directly from a warm house out into freezing temperatures. Instead, move to a sheltered area first for several days.
6. If the ground is unfrozen, the tree may be replanted. The spot to be dug should be mulched to prevent freezing. Plant as soon as possible.
7. Do not remove the burlap and strapping. This keeps the root ball solid and secure. Do not attempt to remove soil from the root system. Earth removed from the original hole should be back-filled around the root ball. Mulch heavily over the top of the planted root ball to prevent it from freezing. Water only as needed: a flooded tree may not survive.
8. Stake the trees to prevent wind tipping or damage during the first growing season.

Tips and more information located on the National Christmas Tree Association website